THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIX., No. 532. SHANGHAI, JULY 21, 1877. PRICE, TLS. 12 PER AN.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England, ...	June 8	Hankow, ...	July 17
San Francisco, ...	„ 15	Yokohama, ...	„ 10
Hongkong, ...	July 15	Nagasaki, ...	„ 14
Tientsin, ...	„ 14	Foochow, ...	„ 10

Latest Mail dates in England, from China

Hongkong, ... April 21
Shanghai, ... „ 15
} Received 2nd June.

BIRTHS.

At Shanghai, on the 16th instant, the wife of ALEX. BIELFELD, of a daughter.

At No. 1, Miller Road, Shanghai, on the 17th instant, the wife of C. F. MOORE, of a daughter.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Nagoya Maru*, for Nagasaki—Messrs. R. Wyper, W. A. Woolley, and C. Kramer; 1 European, 3 Japanese, 5 Chinese, and 13 Loochoo Islanders in steerage. For Hiogo—Messrs. G. B. Dodwell, S. Takezoye, Y. Muko, J. Pinel, and J. Taylor and daughter. For Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. Thos. R. Wheelock and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Masfin, infant and amah, Mrs. Carmichael, Mrs. Cornes, General C. W. Le Gendre, Messrs. W. R. Butcher, J. C. Fowlie, S. Go, S. J. Morris, H. O. Vander Linder, J. M. Allan, and Jenkins; 1 Japanese and 6 Chinese in steerage. For San Francisco—Mr. G. M. Weed.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Conquest*, from Wênchow—Mr. A. Bisbee; 6 Chinese in steerage.

Per str. *Argentino*, from Nagasaki—Messrs. Taylor, Woolley, and Cromer.

Per str. *Appin*, from Tientsin—Mr. and Mrs. Wilson; 40 Chinese in steerage.

Per str. *Mirzapore*, from Brindisi—Mr. Lazarus. From Venice—Mr. Holliday. From Hongkong—Messrs. Joseph, Jamieson, and Grelier; 82 Chinese in steerage.

Per str. *Shanghai*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Masfen, and Mr. Pugh. From Chinkiang—Messrs. Williams, Duff, Jerdein, and two French Missionaries.

Per str. *Tokio Maru*, from Japan—Miss Cussmer, Rev. Mr. Dallett, Messrs. Elliott, C. Streich, Canchefert, Oastler, A. C. Cordes, J. J. Keswick, Chomley, Oida, Schiller, and H. E. N. Witt; 2 Europeans, 12 Japanese, and 6 Chinese in steerage.

LEAVING.

Per str. *Pekin*, for Venice—Mr. E. Major. For Melbourne—Mr. A. Gordon. For Hongkong—Lieut. A. T. S. Carter, R.N., Messrs. J. J. Keswick, L. Vassall, R.N., and W. F. Milton.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer		Thermometer in shade.		Hygrometer at 9.00 A.M.		Wind.		Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours.
	9 A.M.	Attached Therm.	Max.	Min.	Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Force.	Direction	
July	″ ′	°	°	°	°	°			
15	29.74	83.5	87.0	75.0	83.0	78.0	4	E.N.E., b.c	..
16	29.60	77.5	87.0	75.0	77.0	75.0	6	NNE., o.c.r	0.14
17	29.77	77.0	80.0	75.0	76.0	74.0	3	N., b.c.	..
18	29.77	79.0	80.0	76.0	79.0	77.0	0	Z., o.c.	..
19	29.74	76.0	83.0	74.0	76.0	72.0	2	NNE., b.c.	..
20	29.80	74.0	80.0	71.0	74.0	71.0	2	S.E., b.c.	..
21	29.85	83.0	84.0	73.0	83.0	79.0	2	S.W., b.c.	..

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 4.00 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1877.

THE attention of home readers is so concentrated on the events taking place on the banks of the Danube, and in the neighbourhood of Kars, that the rebellion in Japan excites comparatively little attention. Yet, really it is one of the most disastrous occurrences of modern times. The future of the land of the Rising Sun seemed so promising and cheerful, that it is inexpressibly sad to see everything put back by this disastrous rebellion. But that everything is put back no one can deny. The country, which was in financial straits before, will be involved for years in attempts to pay off the money she is now lavishing so recklessly. It is always well to keep before us distinctly the cause of Saigo's rising. It must be emphatically laid down that it is no rebellion against the Mikado. The Throne of Mitsuhito is not threatened. The son of Komei Tenno is personally a popular sovereign. The Satsuma men are angry because faith has not been kept with them, and because the Samurai of the clan have not been paid the pensions which were promised. They attribute the neglect of their just claims to two Ministers of State, specially to Okubo, and they clamour for his removal. If the Mikado had tact, he might at any moment assume the policy of our own Richard II, and take the leadership of the popular party. But he is either ignorant of what is going on, or he is resolved to sustain the action of his Ministers, or he is blindly confident in the ultimate success of his Imperial armies. For ourselves, we are kept in such utter darkness as to the true state of affairs that it is very hard to form an opinion. The news lately received is unsatisfactory. We read that "the rebellion still drags its slow length along," that "Kagoshima was observed burning on the 1st of July," and that "the Imperialists did not give

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themselves any trouble to extinguish the flames." But though the Mikado's troops have gained possession of this important post, nothing can be more wretched than the state of affairs within its walls. We are told "that the insurgents and their families before they left the city, did all they could to render its occupation as uncomfortable as possible for their assailants, by closing up wells or poisoning the water; in others by throwing into them every kind of filth. The heat is excessive, and there is an almost entire absence of any sanitary precautions."

In a word, Kagoshima must be a perfect *inferno*, and the Imperialists can derive scanty advantages from having gained possession of it. These atrocities on the rebel side, however, are, we regret to see, matched by instances of bad faith and savagery on the part of the Imperialists. In Kumamoto, Prince Arisugawa-no-Miya offers an amnesty to all insurgents who shall desert their banners, and then breaks faith with those who take him at his word; and we regret to hear that those who have surrendered have been cruelly tortured when undergoing examination. Thus it seems to be painfully evident that horrors akin to those which have been so deeply deplored in Europe, are being transacted in Japan; and that once again this fair garden of earth is being stained with blood and filled with "violence and cruel habitations."

One circumstance we confess has occasioned us surprise, and that is the attitude of the Foreign Press of Yokohama with regard to the rebels. There is an unmistakeable desire that the Government forces should be defeated, and that Saigo should win. Now we are perfectly prepared to say that the insurgent chief has many noble qualities. He is reported to be a man of pure life and frugal habits. He is undoubtedly a very accomplished master of the art of war. Further, we are prepared to grant that he has been ill-used; but these facts do not justify foreign newspapers in endeavouring to hamper the action of a Government which has treated Western Powers extremely well hitherto, and which it is the interest of all civilized people to sustain and to strengthen.

Summary of News.

The English mail of the 8th June arrived Wednesday, by the P. & O. steamer *Mirzapore*.

The American and Japan mails arrived Thursday, by the M.B. steamer *Tokio Maru*.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe, by the P. & O. steamer *Peking*.

The latest London telegrams report as follows:—Tea supplies are held back. Silk firm. Consols, 94½. Discount, 6 m/s bills, 2%; 3 m/s., 1¼%. Bar silver, 54½.—Shipments of silver to Shanghai, from London, £420,000; from San Francisco, £250,000; total £670,000.

The designs prepared in accordance with the invitation of Subscribers to the "Margary Public Memorial," are now on view at the Club, and on another page we publish a letter from Mr. W. B. Chalmers, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer to the Fund, giving the names of the designers, together with the estimated cost of carrying out each design. Appended is a statement of account, which shows at a glance which designs are within the present limits of the Fund.

We hear a project is on foot for the formation of a company to promote the establishment of that oft-desired convenience, a Sanitarium, at an easy distance from Shanghai. The locality indicated is the Point, and the proposed launching capital is the modest figure of Tls. 4,000. Steps have already been taken to bring the proposal before the community, and it is believed with every prospect of success. If there is a healthful breeze to be found at almost any time in this locality, it is at the Point; and the beneficial effects to convalescents of a residence there has already been experienced, we are informed, both in the case of adults and children.

There are two items in the Municipal Minutes we publish elsewhere, which will be read with satisfaction. The first is the resolution of the Council to beg the U.S. Vice-Consul-General to take such steps as may appear to him most desirable to have some Chinese houses that have been built in the line of the extension of the Seward road removed, and to prevent similar encroachments whilst negotiations for the road are going on.—The Council deserve credit for the course they have adopted, though it cannot but be remarked how much better it would have been if the step had been taken while the houses were in process of erection.—The second point of interest in the minutes is the intended rounding of the N.W. corner of the Bund end of the Canton road. This is by no means so small a matter as at first blush it might seem. In these days of reckless and ignorant driving, and especially now the streets are infested all day long by numbers of Chinese drivers, who care nothing for, or probably know nothing of, the rule of the road, and whose erratic and dangerous movements are never interfered with by anyone in authority, the rounding of street corners means the removal of so much chance of collision and danger, and is therefore to be regarded with considerable favour.

At a special general meeting of the Shanghai Base Ball Club, held on the 13th inst., at the Astor House Hotel, Mr. P. K. Dumaresq was elected President of the Club in the room of Mr. F. Reid, who has resigned in consequence of his early departure for the United States.—Thanks were unanimously tendered to Mr. Reid for the efficient manner in which he served the Club during the time he was in office.—Mr. Sylva proposed, and Mr. Carr seconded, that Messrs. F. Reid and L. F. Fisler be appointed delegates to represent the S.B.B. Club, at the National Association of Amateur Base Ball Players of America. The proposition was carried unanimously.

It is a fact that on several occasions during the past few days, flights of locusts have passed over or through this Settlement; but the singularity is that they have on each occasion, so far as has been observed, chiefly taken their passage during the night, but few having been seen in the day-time. Early on Saturday night last, for instance, the bungalow of a gentleman residing on the Soochow Creek was besieged by the insects. The occupant was reading by the aid of a lamp, sitting with his back to the window, which was partially open to admit the breeze. All at once he was surprised to find the room invaded by a swarm of locusts so numerous that a quantity nearly sufficient to fill a bushel basket was swept up in the room, the same night and following day.—The bungalow of another gentleman, situated near Carter's Cross road, received a similar visitation at about the same time; and there can be no doubt that a large cloud of the insects must have then passed over this district.—On the same night, a solitary locust flew into the bed-room of a gentleman living in the Peking Road. It seemed nearly exhausted, and allowed itself to be captured on the mantelpiece.

We give on another page some further, but meagre, details of the wreck of the M.M. steamer *Meikong*, which show that the disaster was not unattended with considerable amount of risk of life at the time, and subsequent adventure on the part of those who escaped to shore. The statement that the disappearance of the vessel was so rapid after she struck that there was not time to save the mails, and but very little else, is hardly borne out by the sentence in the Saigon correspondent's letter, that she was "wrecked (looted) by armed bands of Somalees, who are a wretched race infesting the coast there, and who consider anything beyond the owners' control in this way as their own property." The words "in this way," of course mean wrecked property, and if there was time for armed bands of Somalees to loot the wreck before it sunk, is it not rather to be inferred that they forcibly prevented, by arms and numbers, any attempt on the part of the crew and passengers to save more than the smallest amount capable of concealment? The subsequent four hours' march across the desert, under a broiling sun, with the consequent loss of two lives by sun-stroke, is not without its romantic interest; and altogether we cannot help thinking that the real and complete narrative of the wreck of the *Meikong* has yet to be written.

Among the native passengers who arrived by the *Soochow*, from Ningpo, on Sunday morning was a native sailor, who represented to the officers that he had been wrecked in an American barque, the name of which he had forgotten. His statement was to the effect that he sailed in the barque, on which there were only three foreigners, from Shanghai to Nagasaki, thence to Hongkong, and from there to Foochow, where a

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cargo of poles was taken for Shanghai. When in the locality of Barren Island, the vessel stranded and sunk in a few minutes, all hands being drowned except himself and three others. They sought refuge on an Island, and after remaining there three days without food, they were rescued by a fishing boat and taken to Chinhai. His three companions stayed there, but he went forward to Ningpo and was given a passage to Shanghai by the *Soochow*, on account of there being a semblance of truth in his representations. When the steamer arrived here he went ashore, and, strange to say, has not since been heard of; and no story of wreck has reached the United State Consulate-General.

Captain G. C. Anderson, of the steamer *Conquest*, has sent us a report from Ningpo, dated the 18th instant, stating that on the previous day while on passage from Shanghai, he saw the wreck of a three-masted schooner, bearing N.W. by W., seven miles from Gutzlaff.—It is, however, thought to be an old wreck.

The wet weather Wednesday again caused a postponement of the Garden Concert of the Amateur Wind Instrument Society.—There has been rain now on four Wednesdays in succession. On the first two, the Concert had to be postponed; on the third, there were slight drizzles during the performance, and the programme was barely got through when rain fell heavily; and the wretched weather of the fourth will be fresh in the minds of our readers.—Last night, however, the weather was pleasant, and the concert passed off successfully.

An important case to ship Captains was heard Tuesday at the Police Court, before R. A. Mowat, Esq. It was one in which Mr. W. Handyside Tapp, H.B.M.'s Registrar of Shipping, summoned Captain Hellen, of the schooner *Lizzie*, for destroying entries in his official log of the passage from Sydney, in contravention of the Merchant Shipping Act. The Captain's explanation was that the log-book was an old one used on a voyage seven or eight years ago, and that the entries on the leaves destroyed referred solely to that passage; he tore them out to have a clean book. He had logged everything worth logging since leaving Sydney, and his entries could be confirmed by the crew. His Worship held that defendant's explanation had no bearing on the point at issue—the destruction of the pages of the book. However old or stupid entries in an official log might be, they must be allowed to remain when once written, and the log not tampered with. By tearing out the pages defendant had committed an offence which the law regarded with great gravity, and one punishable with six months' imprisonment or a fine of £100. Defendant was, however, mulcted in the penalty of $50 and costs. A report of the case appears on another page.

The case of Messrs. Gilman and Co. *v.* Ting Ping-tsai, of the Changkee Silk Hong, was again before the Mixed Court Thursday. It is a claim for Tls. 1,448, lost on a shipment of nine bales of silk to Europe, and a verdict had already been given for the plaintiffs; but defendant applied for a re-hearing. An adjournment was taken to afford an opportunity for a thorough investigation to be made of all transactions that had taken place between the parties, to guide the decision of the Court.—A report is given elsewhere.

On another page, we publish the award of the arbitrator, Mr. J. T. Kingdon Kingdon, in the case of the "Agra Bank *v.* Maccall," Judgment has gone against the defendant, and the sum he is ordered to pay amounts to £10,133 12s. 6d., besides costs.

A case of accidental homicide occurred at the Central Police Station about seven o'clock on Wednesday evening. The native prisoners had had their supper, and were disposing themselves for the night, when a quarrel arose between two of them respecting a blanket, and one struck the other two blows in the side with his fist. The blows are described as not having been very severe, but the man who was struck was observed in a few minutes to change colour. He lay down and began to vomit. Every attention was paid him, but it was considered advisable to remove him to the Shantung Road Hospital. He died, however, before he got there. His assailant was taken to the Mixed Court Thursday, and charged with causing the death of deceased. It being necessary, however, that an inquest should be held by the native authorities, the prisoner was remanded, and information of the occurrence forwarded to the Taotai.—Thursday afternoon, the Chehsien attended at the hospital, and made a full investigation, afterwards expressing the opinion that the man's death was caused through his being struck. The prisoner was sent into the city to be further dealt with.—The Chehsien also expressed the opinion that deceased was not a strong man, and that therefore the blows he received had a more serious effect upon him than they otherwise would have had.

H.B.M.'s gunvessel *Kestrel* left this port for Nagasaki on Thursday morning.

H.B.M.'s gunboat *Midge*, has gone up the Yangtsze.

The French corvette *Laclocheterie* left here on Saturday.

The telegraph line between Penang and Singapore is broken.

The memorial from the Vice-President of the Board of Punishments, Yüan Pao-hêng, which is published in the *Peking Gazette* of the 1st inst., reproduces with queer solemnity a form of petition which is only too familiarly known to most employers of Chinese servants. The houseboy, shroff, or mafoo who approaches his master with a subservient grin, and represents that "b'long my glan-mother hab die-lo, my wanchey go 'way half-moon so, makey belly he," is only saying in other words what the magnate of the Board of Punishments is here seen to be submitting to his Imperial lord. The filial piety, however exaggerated may be its form and liabilities, which imposes this duty upon Vice-Presidents and houseboys alike, is a sentiment not to be deprecated; and if, on some future occasion, the prayer of a humble domestic for leave of absence should be the more indulgently received from a recollection of the present incident, the *Peking Gazette* will not have been published in vain.

The news forwarded by our TIENTSIN correspondent is more than usually interesting. The telegraph line connecting the Arsenal with the Viceroy's yamên appears to have been working so satisfactorily, that an extension is proposed to the provincial capital.—The plague of locusts seems to be spreading widely, resulting in great damage.—The bad management of the underling officials of the C.M.S.N. Co., at Tientsin, again forms subject of complaint, and is if possible exceeded by the discovery that stamps have been stolen from letters sent for transit home by the mails from Shanghai. We have made enquiry into the latter allegation, and find that at the latter part of June two letters from either Chefoo or Tientsin were sent to the Japanese Post-office from the Local Post-office, accompanied by a note calling attention to the fact that the stamps had been removed. Mr. Carr, however, re-stamped the letters and forwarded them to their destination in the United States—an act of courtesy that might well be copied elsewhere.

We are glad to see from our CHEFOO correspondent's remarks, given elsewhere, that that attractive sea-side resort is restored to its pristine salubriousness. Visitors from Shanghai and elsewhere need no longer fear fever or foul smells; everything is once more *couleur de rose*—there appear to be neither sick people, nor hospitals, nor famine refugees, nor anything disagreeable, to be found within miles of this charming resort; and as our correspondent is "neither hotel-keeper nor resident medical practitioner," his disinterestedness is the more to be remarked, and he is also the more to be thanked for so thoroughly removing from the minds of the community of this Settlement (for his communication will certainly have that effect), any doubt as to the salubrity of our chief watering-place at a period of the year when such a familiar and usually healthful resort is so much needed.

A very bad case of assault by military students upon two missionaries, is described by our WUCHANG correspondent, as having occurred in that city in broad daylight on Wednesday week. From the particulars we give on another page, the outrage—one of the worst that has been committed on foreigners for a long time—seems to have been quite unprovoked, and is therefore all the more dastardly. The assailants are described as strangers to the place, having come there to attend the examinations. The residents of the neighbourhood where the assaults were committed opened their doors to give the unfortunate men shelter, but were compelled to eject them, in order to save their houses from being pulled down by the infuriated pack of savages outside. Both victims were not only seriously injured by beating, but one of them had some front teeth knocked out, while the other suffered a fracture of the shoulder bone. The outrage is said to be "pretty generally regretted by the citizens, but the opinion is freely expressed that it is simply impossible to obtain any redress, as the assailants were military students"—and the Magistrates are completely under their power!—The matter, however, has been taken up by H.B.M.'s Consul at Hankow; and in spite of alleged obstacles, it is to be hoped that sufficient energy will be shown in investigating the case to ensure the punishment of at least the ringleaders.

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Editorial Selections.

FAMINE AND BAD TRADE.

The import trade of China, which for some years has been in an unsatisfactory condition, is apparently just now beginning to feel the pressure of the famine in the North. There were many reasons, in a country so extensive as China, why the full incidence of so great a calamity should not be suddenly felt. Still the past year, even compared with its predecessors, has been one of great and increasing slackness. Chinkiang, from which, by its system of water carriage, the famine-stricken districts have been largely supplied, is, as usual, one of the best tests to judge of the severity of the infliction. In spite of lower prices and cheaper freights, the import has from month to month continued to decline; and it may be said now that it has almost ceased to exist. A glance at the Customs' Returns for the past month will show to what a low ebb the trade of the port has become reduced, and how, from being an important distributing centre, it has gradually shrunk till it has become one of the smallest customers for foreign imports. The opening of Wuhu has had a little, but very little, to do with this result, the comprised imports being still far below those of last year; while it must not be forgotten that many of the imports now finding an entrance *viâ* Wuhu, formerly found their way to the districts lying south of that port by Ningpo, in preference to Chinkiang. It has been estimated that the total of imports within the last three months have, with the exception of opium, scarcely exceeded one-fifth of what it reached in previous years; nor is this to be wondered at, when the conditions of the country are borne in mind. Nor are the reports this year reassuring for the future. What the famine last year spared, locusts this year bid fair to destroy; and this new devastation is the more serious that its ravages seem likely to extend over a greater area than that of the famine of last year, and to include the hitherto untouched province of Shansi. Seen in the light of the real requirements of the probable disaster, the provision made by the Government is ridiculously inadequate—if, indeed, it is not almost an aggravation of the evil. The Governor of Shansi asks for a sum of 200,000 taels to be set aside towards the relief of the threatened famine. Thirty times that amount, in his own province alone, will probably be needed, if any attempt is to be made to grapple with the evil. The sums distributed last year in Chihli scarcely afforded a dole; yet it is difficult to form an estimate of how much more will be needed to meet the trouble to come. At Chinkiang itself, the accounts of the state of affairs are heartreading. The paddy has not been planted out, for it seemed a hollow mockery even to attempt it. The air is rendered misty with millions of locusts, and human aid now seems utterly unavailable to prevent a famine of the most grievous kind. The Government, as usual in an emergency, is utterly paralysed. It is difficult to say what the Government exists for; certainly it has exhibited no sign of being either able or willing to make the slightest effort to destroy the locusts, which are eating up every green thing. These scourges are believed in China to proceed from the evil doing of the Government; and certainly, if we are to judge of the ruling power by its actions of past years, we should be disposed to agree in great measure with the popular belief.

In this particular case, the Government is possibly not to blame. It might have perhaps done a little; it could not have done much; but practically it has done nothing, and allowed the destruction to proceed unchecked. But, if it could have done but little in this immediate instance, it might have done much within the last ten years to improve the condition of the people, and render them more independent in presence of a scourge like the present. It cannot say it neglected the means of doing so from want of warning, for the whole of the foreign Press has warned it of the natural results of the system adopted. The Government, however, preferred to isolate the people; to close their means of communication; to allow the roads to fall into disrepair; and to do its best to strangle trade of every kind. The country is now reaping the fruits of misgovernment; and our pity for the unfortunate victims cannot but be mixed with indignation at the selfishness of those in power, which has practically placed the people almost beyond human help.

CHINESE POLICY.

For the last seven years the Chinese Government has been afflicted with a desire to close itself as of old against the rest of the world, and has tried every means from secret plotting to almost open hostility to gain its ends. It has stopped the natural development of trade, has injured the mercantile relations of the Empire, and has jeopardised the two great staples of China—tea and silk. Yet the extraordinary fact remains that, so far from freeing itself from the shackles of foreigners, it has really become day by day more dependent on them. It has ruined its own industries, has oppressed its people, and almost put a stop to internal trade in its blind pursuit of a chimera; has excited alternately the dislike and contempt of foreign powers; yet in the end is really less independent than if it had frankly acknowledged its obligations, and set itself to encourage rather than thwart the development of external trade. It has probably learnt to some extent by this time that the course of events is not ruled by individual men or individual nations, but that there are overruling principles at work which drive men and nations into particular lines of policy, of which they little wot when they commenced. We may notice how unwittingly China itself has been led into entire dependence on foreign aid in the matter of warlike supplies. It seemed an easy thing to fight foreigners with their own weapons, and to introduce military arts and weapons from Europe. For a little while the labours of the arsenals, such as they were, were looked upon with complaisance; but it was not long before it became evident that arsenals would not go on of themselves, and that as the arts of manufacture were advancing yearly in the rest of the world, China was of necessity, in order to carry out the original intention, compelled to keep alongside its neighbours. More and more it has become dependent on the foreigner for the supply of tools and machinery, while it can scarcely boast that even in one arsenal it has been able to do without the aid of the foreigner in person. But this is not all. The finances of the country have been wilfully wasted to support these overgrown establishments; taxes have been increased to such an amount that they have ceased to be productive; and in their last distress the anti-foreign party have been compelled to go to foreigners to borrow the money for their own expulsion. Now we may fairly ask the Chinese, what end have they gained by all this? Have they increased the prestige of their Government in one particular, or have they benefitted their own people? If we look at what China was a few years ago and compare it with the China of to-day, we can scarcely congratulate the Government on the change. Trade then showed signs of revival, and the people seemed to be in a fair way of becoming contented. Now there is a universal cry from one end of the Empire to the other. Business is unprofitable to all, and a general feeling of discontent is prevalent. Nor has the Chinese Government succeeded in removing the external pressure of the foreigner. Great Britain was a few years ago supposed to be the only nation with designs on China, and Chinese statesmen put themselves to the task of checkmating the action of British Ministers. Even if British Ministers were now disposed to be complaisant, signs are not wanting that others are ready to take their place. China has in fact been asleep for some centuries, and fondly hopes that the sleep will be allowed to continue. It is not that individuals have any particular desire to wake up the old country, but that circumstances have arisen which force them to do so, whether they like it or not. This is the condition of affairs which the Chinese Government has shown itself unable to understand; yet it is one evident enough to all who have deeply investigated the question. Seeing, however, that it is so, the Chinese have

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shown little astuteness in their means of making use of it. To accept the inevitable is generally wise policy, but the Chinese have been doing their best to stop it. To quote their own comparison: a stream may be led in its channel so as to become useful; the attempt to dam it up will only result in destruction. The Chinese have made the attempt to dam up the stream of progress; they would not be the first nation which has owed its destruction to a similar cause.

LOCUSTS.

MISFORTUNE seems to have marked China for her own. The calamities that have poured and are continuing to pour upon the devoted land are not coming in single spies, but in battalions. Though at first we thought that the tale of misery from Shantung might have been to a certain extent exaggerated, it seems to have been an uncoloured narrative of facts. The latest visitation is that of the locusts. Very few home-keeping Englishmen at all realize the terror and extent of this plague, and yet the devastation wrought by these insects is a matter of recent history. The locust is not an insect whose terrible powers are only recorded in the poetic and highly figurative Books of the Hebrew Prophets. The very remarkable paper which we reprinted recently from *Good Words*, containing the particulars of the ravages caused by locusts in Cyprus, shows that there is no necessity for Oriental hyperbole to exaggerate the mischief they produce. The continent of Europe, though it is not generally recollected, has from time to time suffered. In the year 1748, locusts invaded Europe in immense numbers. Charles XII and his army, then in Bessarabia, were stopped in their course. It is said that the swarms were four hours passing over Breslau; and in an old number of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, Sylvanus Urban tells us that a swarm fell near Bristol and ravaged the country in the month of July in the same year. They did great damage in Shropshire and Staffordshire by eating the blossoms of the apple-trees, and specially the leaves of oaks, which looked as bare as at Christmas. As far as we know, there are no special reasons why this plague should make itself visible at special times. We are not aware of any climatic conditions which are favourable to these swarms. They do not occur after peculiarly hot seasons, or peculiarly rainy seasons. Volney remarks that they come after unusually mild winters, but this is not confirmed. At certain times they have devastated Africa. Barrow says in his Travels that, "in the southern part of that "continent, an area of nearly two "thousand square miles might be said "literally to be covered with them. "When driven into the sea by a north-"west wind, they formed upon the "shore for fifty miles a bank three or "four feet high, and when the wind "was south-east, the stench was so "powerful as to be smelt at the distance "of 150 miles." Now ever since the middle of May, when we first heard of them at Wuhu, they have been devastating the Middle Kingdom, and late advices from Tientsin state that they have eaten some districts in the North bare.

The subject of the locust swarm is thus taken out of the mysterious world of Biblical visitation and brought home to us. We have, therefore, taken some pains to collect facts about this terrible insect. The breeding country for the locust in South-western Asia, is the great desert of Arabia reaching to the Persian gulf. Different sorts of locusts do not succeed one another. Generally the female locusts deposit their eggs and die, and then, unless a moist winter or man's forethought destroy the eggs, the brood which issues from them in the next spring, being as voracious as the full grown locusts, but crawling through the land, does, in that immediate neighbourhood, destroy the produce of the second year more fatally than the parent had that of the preceding. Thus, we are perhaps only at the beginning of the locust trouble.

The usual direction of the flight of the locust is from East to West, or from South to North; but the *Œdipoda migratoria* is believed to have its birthplace in Tartary, from whence it visits Africa, the Mauritius, and part of the South of Europe.

It is a very remarkable phenomenon that a nation burdened with actual afflictions as China now is, with one district desolated by famine, and a scourge like that which we have been describing falling cruelly and heavily on another—it is strange we say, that a nation in this position should add to her actual and practical trouble a number of fictitious and imaginary grievances, and should allow herself to be troubled about tail-cutting and paper-men, when so much actual misery stares her in the face.

DILAPIDATIONS.

"IF," says Scarron, "neither the Pyra-"mids of Egypt nor the Colosseum at "Rome could withstand the injury of "time, why should I think much that "my black waistcoat is out at elbows?" This reflection, which is not without a certain point and propriety, may comfort and console many residents in China when suffering from one of those minor miseries which acidulate life. We refer to the dilapidation and deterioration of our wearing apparel and the consequent expenditure and inconvenience which result. Shanghai has three Thalabas, or Destroyers—the Climate, the Washerman, and the House Boy. It is not easy to decide which of the three works the wildest and most irreparable havoc in our wardrobes.

The damage wrought by Climate is a fact alike patent and painful. One's boots are covered with a corroding green damp, like verdigris on an old cannon. Our gloves are speckled and spoiled, and our woollen clothes mildewed in a night. The Washerman, however, is the most ruinous and dire waster of our goods. He iron-moulds the fronts of erewhile glossy shirts. He rends off buttons, or breaks them with the flat-iron (the only sarcasm he understands is this *flat irony*.) He tears our pocket-handkerchiefs into fragments. He frays the edges of our white ties. He stiffens our patrol jackets, so that we feel habitually like men in buckram. He tears out the button-holes in our collars, and elongates our cotton socks until they would nearly fit Chang. The House-boy is monotonous in his onslaughts. He does not mar or injure our goods. He simply removes them one by one from our keeping, and charges himself with the guardianship of them. We are believed to have given them to him as testimonials of regard and proofs of affection. *Non rapui sed recepi* is his motto. From the co-operation of these three causes, there can be no doubt that it is extremely difficult to keep one's-self in repair in China. We are not speaking of those moral dilapidations to which flesh is heir, but confine ourselves to the casualties and misfortunes that befal one's clothes. If a fire or any sudden alarm takes place, which calls the dweller in Shanghai from his mosquito-hindered sleep all on a sudden, he finds this out only too clearly. The bell clangs in his ears; he arouses himself from a dream that early shipments have paid, by a vigorous effort, and obeys the summons to put on "manly readiness." But here his difficulties begin. He could put on his socks slowly and carefully in broad daylight, for he knew by what skilful pilotage he could guide his way between the holes. He knows his way fairly about his other clothes in the day, but in dubious light it is a difficult task, and he is soon aware by painful experience that his wardrobe is by no means in the complete condition that it was when he left home. He feels often when going out to dinner, a thing of shreds and patches. The edge of his shirt collar is serrated and jagged, and cuts his neck. The buttons which should sustain his braces are lacking, the button holes of the aforesaid braces do not embrace the button with any firmness of grasp. The loops on which the right adjustment of his drawers depends are insecure, and these useful specimens of dual garmenture drop about his ancles. Large holes of the size and character vulgarly known as "potatoes," gape in the heels of his stockings.

We are of course prepared to admit that the outside aspect of the Shanghai resident, when "got up" for a dinner party, is unexceptionable. But we fear he is too often "beautiful outwardly," but with secret rifts, hidden chasms, hurriedly stitched up apertures,

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and twisted knots of unseemly string, binding together in precarious coherence the various garments that are worn beneath the well brushed coat or figure displaying jacket. We feel like some peeping Tom or lurker behind a Judas hole, when we hint at the existence of these hidden blemishes and irritating toilet secrets; but there is a moral as good as any ever written in copy-book to be drawn from it all. Do not judge rashly. May not the constrained manner which we attribute to arrogance and purse pride be really due to a consciousness that our trowsers are like those of Canning's "knife grinder." May not the supercilious haughtiness, and the erect head proceed from the grating and rasping aggravation of a frayed shirt collar?

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

We have been having some hot days of late. Yesterday at 4 p.m. the mercury stood at 102° in the shade, and the sun felt at least 10° hotter. Rain is very much needed. The snow of last winter, and the rains of the spring, seem to have had the effect of decreasing the ordinary rain-fall at this season. It has been cloudy all day, with a light sprinkle this afternoon, which we hope may increase to a heavy fall to-night. But the Chinese say, "these clouds will not rain."

The telegraph line connecting the Arsenal with the Viceroy's yamên, has been in use for some time, and seems to give satisfaction. A line is proposed from the latter place to the provincial capital, for which the survey is, I understand, now being made. Little by little and very slowly, seems to be the only way by which these improvements of Western science can be introduced into China, and it is absolutely necessary that too great proximity to the "Dragon throne" be avoided.

There is little of interest here to report. The locusts are doing immense damage to the crops.

We hear occasional complaints concerning the want of system and care in connection with the China Merchants' Co. No one seems to know where to find anything, and it requires a personal hunt, bill of lading in hand, to find the required article. The worst charge of all, however, relates to the stealing of postage stamps from foreign bound letters sent to the mails in Shanghai. We have heard that there are some such letters now lying—or were recently—in the Japanese post office at Shanghai, from which the stamps had been removed. There is reason to believe this statement is true, and it is to be sincerely hoped that the matter will be investigated, and an example made of the offenders. If the Company has any desire to secure public confidence, these things must be corrected by the introduction of system and the employment of reliable persons in the management of details.

11th July.

CHEFOO.

The weather after having been deliciously cool for a long time has now got pretty warm, and the refreshing blue water has again begun to attract the usual morning and evening swimmers. We hear the good people of Shanghai have got terribly frightened at the fever which was said to be prevalent here, and are under the impression that our pleasant beach is swarming with beggarly refugees and mat-shed-hospitals, and that many of you who were ready to come with your pockets full of dollars to spend for the good of the place have changed your minds and resolved to die where you are. I am not either an hotel keeper or the resident medical practitioner, nevertheless I am very sorry to see other people done out of their money for a mere idea; so let me say that our beach is clean and clear as ever (in fact better than ever), that the sky and sea are blue and shining as ever, and that there is not a sick Chinaman within three miles of the place. We occasionally like to take an evening's promenade ourselves by the seaside, and as it would not have been elegant to have had to hold our handkerchiefs to our noses every time we passed these sheds, so the people who had the management of the matter, wisely, in my opinion, put them on the other side of the Chinese town, on the sandy flat behind what is known as the *west beach*, and ever so far away from the Settlement. There were only two or three put up after all, but had there been a hundred they would have done nobody any harm at that spot.

Seriously, however, all possible danger of contagion is long since over, whatever the prospect may have been at one time. I have it on the best authority that the numbers in the so-called hospital are so diminished, and the cases so trifling, that it is hardly worth while keeping it open longer. If you want statistics you shall have them. There is probably less sickness here than in Shanghai, or any other large town. And this is what we might expect. The natives have had an excellent crop, wanderers have gone back to their homes for the most part, and their spirits are bright with hopes for the future.

July 11th.

NINGPO.

Since the typhoon, repairs and repairing have been the chief occupations of the industrious inhabitants of this port; but the serious discussion amongst the impecunious members of the community—alas! it comprises most of us—has been the advisability of forming a Municipal Council. Why we should have one I am at loss to tell. Have we not the Customs? We find the masterly inactivity of all in authority too barren a field for fighting over, and it has dawned in secret upon the minds of a few to begin a "rumpus" by starting a Municipal Council. If the idea were carried out, the authority would extend over about four individuals; but then, we might find room for the Health Officer! For long and ardently has this officer been wished for; skilfully and perseveringly have the wires been pulled. Great guns have been fired, additional taxation (with no return) resorted to, sickness and sudden death dinned into our ears until we begin to doubt the probability of our very existence from hour to hour! And all has been of no avail. Sad to relate, the very scheme that gave birth to the idea is falling, as the leaves fall. The "scavenger corps" is done for! The wheelbarrows and shovels are to be sold, to pay the coolies' wages!

The opposition Steam Co. attracts but little attention. It is useful, however, for many reasons; one of these is, it tends to keep freights within due bounds. I hope it will continue to run; it must be profitable to the promoters, else they would discontinue it.

One of our residents, a short time since, was not a little shocked to find one of his letters from Shanghai torn open, and inside the fly of the envelope, quite freshly written "Open by mistake, ——."—Fortunately the letter contained no information about saltpetre, satin, or other interesting imports, but would rather serve to puzzle even an acute Customs officer. Nevertheless this disagreeable fact remains, that our correspondence is not exempt from interference. It is to be expected our cargo should be examined by the Customs authorities, but when it comes to our correspondence undergoing the same ordeal, it is rather hard; and some means should be resorted to, to stop it.

WUCHANG.

This city has long ago obtained unenviable notoriety for its alleged hostility to foreigners. But whenever disturbances have arisen it has been found to be, almost without exception, the work of the students temporarily residing in the city, during the literary or military examinations, and by no means to be taken as a sign of the feeling of the citizens generally.

These young aspirants for honours come up from all parts of the province, with unbounded capacity for mischief-making and rioting, joined to an unreasoning and implacable hatred of the unknown foreigner, whose character and objects rumour has painted in her darkest colours. A not uncommon idea being that all foreigners are engaged in a deep laid scheme to subvert the present dynasty and seize the country. On Wednesday last, an ebullition of this feeling was the cause of an altogether unprovoked and apparently unpremeditated attack upon two foreign residents in Wuchang, with somewhat serious consequences.

About six o'clock in the evening, one of the missionaries was taking a quiet walk in the neighbourhood of the parade ground, where a number of students were assembled practicing archery. No sooner did the foreigner appear in sight than a band of these restless spirits made a sudden onset upon him by means of their favourite mode of attack, a shower of stones. Closely pursued, the gentleman thus assailed took refuge first in a garden, and then in a house, whose friendly doors were thrown open to him. But the mob commenced pulling down the walls about the heads of the inmates, and the foreigner was compelled to leave the place. After a while he reached home seriously bruised and wounded, having two of his front teeth broken and attired in the dress of a friendly Chinaman, his own clothing having been torn to shreds.

Meanwhile his colleague hearing news of the attack, had left the Mission House to go to his friend's assistance. Upon his coming into sight, the brave young defenders of their country commenced a second attack with renewed vigour.

Expostulation was useless, and this gentleman was compelled to seek shelter in a police station near at hand. But the doors were almost immediately broken open by the mob, and the missionary was struck to the ground by a blow from a heavy beam which resulted in fracture of the shoulder bone, together with other serious injuries.

The assault is considered to be one of the worst that has ever been perpetrated in Wuchang, and its consequences such as to call for strict investigation and speedy punishment.

How admirable then is the system of Chinese law which puts almost out of the question any hope of obtaining justice, when the offender is one of these so-called literati.

The matter has been taken up by H.B.M.'s Consul in Hankow. But in Wuchang, while the circumstances of the assault are pretty generally regretted by the citizens, the opinion is freely expressed that it is simply impossible to obtain any redress, seeing that the assailants were the military students.

For if, say they, the leaders of the attack were to be punished, the students, as a body, would refuse to go into the examinations, and their refusal being reported to Peking would result in the cashiering of the mandarins in office.

So completely are the magistrates within the power of these students, that (in spite

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of treaties and proclamations), the latter are free to work their will upon any of Her Majesty's subjects who may come in their way.

FOOCHOW.

The *Herald* says it is stated that the difficulty between Spain and China, in reference to the *Soverina* claims, is now settled, the Peking Government having agreed to pay an indemnity to the relatives of that vessel's crew.—The gunboats *Gamma* and *Delta*, lately arrived from England for the Chinese Government, were officially transferred to their owners on the 28th ultimo. —A great amount of distress continues to prevail in the City and surrounding districts. Rice is said to be getting dearer from day to day, though the public granaries are well stocked. Should the first rice crop prove a serious failure, as now seems probable, there must follow a corresponding increase of destitution, and the province will have to look for further supplies of grain from Saigon or elsewhere.—Several lives, it is stated, have been lost in attempting to cross the long bridge. Two of the arches of this bridge were washed away by the recent freshet, and no attempt has since been made to repair the damage, beyond placing a few ricketty narrow planks across the gap. Upwards of twenty passengers have lost their lives through falling off these narrow pieces of timber into the swift current below.—The annual general meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held on the 4th instant. The following extract from the Committee's Report, respecting telegraphs, will probably be read with interest: —"The line between the Settlement and Pagoda, though open to improvement, is still kept fairly in working order, and as it has now been some time in the hands of the Chinese there is reason to hope that they will continue to maintain it. The construction of the line which is to connect this port with Amoy, and thence with the great telegraphic systems of the world, appears again to be indefinitely postponed. Although the local government did for a time open a school of telegraphy under the able management of Mr. Henningsen, of the Great Northern Telegraph Co., with a kind of tacit understanding that this Foochow-Amoy line should be commenced as soon as the students were capable of working it, yet it was soon apparent that the school was receiving very little encouragement from the authorities, who just allowed it to be carried on until Mr. Henningsen left for Europe, and shortly after his departure broke it up; thus showing either that a change of policy had taken place, or that there had never been any real meaning in the formation of the said school. There is, however, some hope left, and it is to be found in the fact that the present Governor of Formosa is striving to connect that island with the mainland at Amoy by cable, and also to join the northern and southern ports of the island by a land line; and should he succeed in this scheme it seems not unreasonable to hope, in view of the intimate relations existing between the government of this province and that of Formosa, that the line should ultimately be carried as far as Foochow, and thus the desired connection with Amoy be made via Formosa." The following were elected as the Committee for the current year:—Messrs. Paterson, Walkinshaw, Pim, Haslam, and H. R. Smith.

The *Herald*, in its commercial summary, says transactions in Congou, since 28th ult. (to 5th inst.) have been reported to the extent of about 34,000 chests, at (short price) from Tls. 6½ *a* 11 for siftings and broken leaf; Tls. 11.5 *a* 15 for fair to good common; Tls. 16 *a* 18 for flavory; Tls. 19 *a* 22 for medium; Tls. 23 *a* 27 for good medium; and Tls. 28 *a* 31.5 for fine. These rates indicate a somewhat lower market for common and flavory kinds, though, as usual at this period, the later settlements shew a falling off in intrinsic quality. Really good teas are in small supply, and command comparatively full prices. The total arrivals of Congou to date amount to about 336,000 chests, against 400,000 chests at the corresponding period of last season. It is not, however, expected that the total decrease will much exceed 40,000 chests. Souchongs:—2,900 chests of fair to extra fine have been purchased, at Tls. 22.5 *a* 55 per picul (short.) The quality is considered equal to last season's yield. Scented Teas continue to command extreme prices.—Export, to Great Britain, 16,117,093 lbs.; to Australia, 5,670,841 lbs. *Freight.*—To London, per steamer, £3 *a* £3.10. To Australia, per steamer, £3. Vessels loading.—For London, steamer *Viking*; for Australia and New Zealand, *Gaston Auges, Hongkong, Diamant, James Wilson*, and *Irazu* (sailing vessels), and s.s. *Ocean*. Vessels expected to load.—For London, steamers *Cyphrenes, Mecca, Montgomeryshire*, and *Spartan*; for Australia, *Alice Mary* and *Trelevan Family*.

Messrs. John Forster & Co. write, under date the 6th inst., since the last issue of our report there has been less disposition to operate, and the amount of business done indicates a quieter market. *Congou.*—Settlements during the past week amount to 32,691 chests, at Tls. 6½ *a* 32½ (short.) The few fine chops now remaining on offer are firmly held for high prices. In the early part of the week considerable purchases were made of medium and good medium kinds at full rates, and quotations are unchanged. Flavory and common sorts have commanded some attention at former rates, and siftings still maintain their value. The stock is now much reduced, and consists chiefly of the common to medium grades. Second crop Yung Hows have been taken at Tls. 20 *a* 21.5, Sueykuts at Tls. 14.5 *a* 17.5, and Tong Hing Tongs at Tls. 17.5. The cost at which Teas lay down in London is calculated at Exchange 4/1, and freight at £3.10 per 40 cubic feet. *Souchong*,—Rather active demand at former prices; *Oolong*,—A few settlements, quotations unchanged; *Scented Teas*,—Moderate business at full rates, quality considered.

HONGKONG.

The *Mail* says the new Marine Insurance Company started lately under Chinese auspices has succeeded so well that the same office intends to augment its operations by the addition of the business of a fire insurance department. Most of the shares in this new Fire Office have been taken up, and the Company, named the Sheung On, "Constant Safety," will commence business on the 1st day of the 7th moon, while the capital to be paid up is to be collected from and after the 25th July inst. until the 8th August next.—Some months ago Capt. Clanchy, of the steamer *Danube*, was robbed by a chair-coolie of $1,900, which had been placed in his sedan chair. The matter was at the time referred to the Government, which communicated with H.B.M. Consul at Swatow, whither the thief was supposed to have fled. The result now is the restoration of the money to Capt. Clanchy, the booty having been traced and recovered from the thief or his relatives; but the thief himself has not been arrested.

The *Daily Press* understands that there are a great many counterfeit dollars about in Hongkong at the present time, probably put into circulation through the same agency as that which recently at Singapore attempted to palm off twelve hundred spurious dollars on the Chartered Mercantile Bank there. Most of the bad coins are, it is stated, clever imitations of the American trade dollar, and they are very difficult to detect except by the ring.—The Hon. J. Gardiner Austin has gone to Yokohama, on leave; and that the Hon. C. C. Smith will be acting Colonial Secretary; and Mr. Wodehouse acting Registrar-General.

The *Mail* says the competitive examination for the vacancy of Third Clerk at the Magistracy, was held on the 10th inst. In spite of the withdrawal of several applicants, no less than fourteen presented themselves, among whom was an Indian, who pitted himself against the remaining Chinese on an examination chiefly in the Chinese language both oral and written. The result will be probably made known in the next *Government Gazette*.—The O. & O. S. S. *Gaelic* brought six men (Japanese), being part of the crew of a disabled junk, which she fell across on the 6th instant, during her passage from Yokohama. The men were very weak from want of food, and three had already died from this cause before the *Gaelic* reached them.

MACAO.

A letter from Macao says:—"From the last number of the *Boletim do Governo de Macao e Timor*, we learn that a concession has been granted by the Government to Mr. M. Ayres da Silva to construct an embankment along the frontage of the inner harbour, being a curve from the Harbour Master's office to the Green Island, something about a mile in circumference. These are some of the principal conditions of the concession:—'That three years from date is granted for the completion of the work; when the said term is expired and the work has not been completed, the contract to be considered null and void. That a sum of $20,000 be deposited in the Colonial Treasury as a guarantee, the money so deposited to be appropriated by the Treasury if the work is not completed in the specified time. That the work will be entirely under official inspection. That Mr. Silva is to pay for Crown rent at the rate of three cents of a dollar for each square metre of the enbankment destined for the construction of houses, &c., and no tax will be levied on the two wharves to be constructed on both ends of the embankment.' It is said that it will be a work of some magnitude, and that the full term of three years will be required for its completion. The cost is estimated at seventy thousand and odd dollars. The Director of the Public Works has taken the job in hand, and it is expected that the embankment will give room enough for about fifty capacious hongs with two large wharves for the use of the steamers intended to run in the lines of Timor, Singapore, Australia, Portuguese India and Polynesia. The Governor, Senhor Carlos Eugenio, with his Secretary, Senhor Guimaraens, have made several important reforms in the principal branches of Colonial administration. What we can say is that the Government will do well to remove all restrictions in the way of commerce and navigation, and to abolish all imposts and levies on vessels, such as the levy of 20 cents per ton on vessels entering the harbour, &c."

SINGAPORE.

The *Singapore Times* reports that on the 26th ultimo an attempt, which happily failed, was made to pass some $1,200 spurious dollars at the Chartered Mercantile Bank. It seems two Chinese women presented themselves and asked for a draft on Hongkong for the above amount, tendering the spurious coin in payment. The dollars looked quite right, but the practised ear of the shroff at once detected a slight difference in the ring. Two hundred dollars were piled on the bank counter, and pronounced by the shroff to be all bad. Upon hearing this, the women at once decamped in the hack gharry in which they came, before they could be seized, or rather

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perhaps before it was realised that they had deliberately attempted to pass forged dollars. It is satisfactory to be able to state that they were followed without delay, and that they were seized. They are now in custody with all the dollars, awaiting examination. The counterfeit coin consists of American Trade and Mexican dollars, and the imitation is simply perfect, in fact were it not for the "ring," detection would be almost impossible.

The *Straits Times* states, with regret, that nothing whatever has been discovered by the Police of Singapore with regard to the origin of the 1,200 forged American trade dollars which two Chinese women attempted a short time ago to pass at one of the banks at that port. The women are still in custody, but appear to maintain perfect silence as to how they became possessed of the counterfeit coins.

NAGASAKI.

The *Rising Sun* says Prince Arisugawa, Commander-in-chief of the Imperial forces, arrived in Nagasaki on the 4th instant, and was received with a salute from the fort. The Prince afterwards made a tour of inspection among the wounded soldiers quartered in various parts of the Settlements.—The fourth of July passed off very quietly here. The salute from the battery on the arrival of the Prince Arisugawa in the morning was evidently intended to do duty as acknowledgment of the anniversary of U.S. Independence, no other being fired during the day. The U.S. corvette *Kearsarge* and H.B.M.'s gunvessel *Lily* both dressed ship at early dawn, and some of the Japanese steamers in port having also donned their colors in honor of the arrival of the Commander-in-chief, the harbour presented a gay appearance. At night the U.S. Naval Depôt, Smith's Hotel, and the Tagasima Colliery office were illuminated, and bombs, rockets, and crackers at various intervals, made the vicinity of the creek quite lively up to a late hour.

The *Cosmopolitan Press* says the export of coal from Nagasaki for the current month will be something enormous,—no less than eight sailing vessels in port at present are loading that article as cargo,—and several more are expected daily.—There has been good mackerel fishing in the Inland Sea lately, and boats have been in great request. Price per day for hiring a boat has been from 30 to 40 cents. In the neighbourhood of Koyagi, as many as 300 and 400 mackerel have been taken in the evening in a few hours.

HIOGO.

The *News* says among the passengers recently arrived in Kobe were H.E. Kuroda, on a visit to Kioto, and the ex-Daimio of Tosa, who is understood to be on his way to Kochi, to exert his influence to keep quiet the turbulent spirits of that Ken.—The cricket match, "Married *v.* Single," has resulted in the utter and complete discomfiture of the married folks, who only scored 88 (44 in each of two innings) to their opponents' 214 in one innings!

YOKOHAMA.

The Yokohama papers publish the judgment, given at great length by Acting Law Secretary Wilkinson, in H.B.M.'s Court at Kanagawa, on the motion in the case, "Iwasaki Yataro *v.* Captain Philip Colomb, R.N.," respecting the collision in harbour, by dragging during a gale, between the ironclad *Audacious* and the M.B. steamer *Chiri Maru*. According to the *Gazette*, the defendant demurred against the petition on the grounds that it did not disclose the *gravamen* in such a distinct and certain manner as to place him in a position to understand the complaint with certainty, and that this Court, in view of the position of the defendant, as an officer in Her Majesty's service and in command of H.M.S. *Audacious*, had no jurisdiction over him. After an exhaustive digest of the law bearing on the case, illustrated by quotations from standard legal works and citation of cases, Mr. Wilkinson was of opinion that the Court had jurisdiction, and directed the case to proceed. The following gentlemen were sworn as a Jury:—Messrs. J. J. Gray, George Butland, James Lichtenstein, Edgar Abbott, and Alexander Clarke. Mr. G. P. Ness appeared on behalf of the plaintiff, and Mr. F. V. Dickins for the defendant. The total sum claimed was reduced by permission from $7,400 to $4,400. After occupying four days, the case was, on the 2nd instant, further adjourned, for the Judge's summing up and the verdict of the jury.—The *Mail* gives the following as a portion of the evidence brought out during the cross-examination of the plaintiff in the above action:—"I used to ply steamers hither and thither in my own name, when the Government gave me several steamers and I formed the Mitsu Bishi Company. I paid nothing for them, and have never been asked to pay cost of them to the Government. Counting large and small, I think there are eighteen steamers, but I do not remember. The last one was handed over to me about three years ago. I pay all expenses of passage for vessels in the Government service. The earnings belong to the Mitsu Bishi Co.; speaking accurately, they go into my hand." The *Gazette* says by native accounts 292 piculs of new silk were brought from the interior to Yokohama between the 18th and the 26th ult., inclusive. One-third of this quantity was unsold on the 28th.—The *Hochi Shinbun* refers to the rumour of a proposed arrangement of a new loan of several million yen to the Chinese by the Japanese Government. It says that a disagreement (as to the terms of the loan, probably), has occurred, and that the Chinese are desirous of putting a stop to all further negotiations, by the payment of a forfeit of Tls. 25,000 to the Japanese.

The *Herald* narrates the following incident, which should act as a warning to be careful in the manipulation of lamps in houses:—A Japanese nurse, at Madame Pelikan's, had occasion to prepare some food for her mistress' baby; for that purpose she lit a spirit lamp, and whilst it was alight she replenished the reservoir with alcohol, spilling some beside, when the whole took fire. In her alarm, she dropped the bottle, saturating her dress and the carpet, which also became ablaze. The unfortunate woman, rushed into her mistress' bedroom, enveloped in flames. Madame Pelikan tried to put out the fire and got severely burnt; by this time Mons. Pelikan, by rolling the nurse in some bedding, managed to extinguish the flames on her person. Whilst this was going on, the carpet in the adjoining room, which had been saturated with spirit, was burning, and also the boards beneath; the child was in its cot, with flames around it, but was rescued by its father uninjured. A medical man was at once sent for, and the dreadfully burnt nurse taken to the hospital, where she lies in so precarious a state that she was not expected to survive the night.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

July 1st.—(1) Ch'ung How, acting Governor General of Shêng-king, with his colleague Ming Ngan, Vice-President at the head of the Moukden Board of Punishments, memorializes reporting the result of a trial held in the case of an Imperial clansman named Ming Hai, accused of causing the death of a Buddhist priest named Wang Sing-tsing by stabbing. The case goes back to 1870, in the autumn of which year, it appears, the priest Wang proposed to an acquaintance named Lin Siang that they would combine to open a gambling house at Moukden, which they forthwith proceeded to do. Wang provided a brass bowl, which he had had in his possession, and one hundred dominoes, each of which was to be reckoned, [for gaming purposes], at 1000 current *cash*; and Lin Siang having got ready a table, benches, and other appurtenances, the establishment was opened the same day. Lin Siang acted as croupier 持盒做寶, and Wang undertook the task of passing round the bowl and collecting the dominoes. Persons, by name unknown, were in the habit of coming in daily to gamble, and up to the day on which the accused was apprehended on the charge of murder, the keepers of the table made a profit of from 10 to 30 *tiao* of current *cash* per diem. On the 2nd October, 1870, three Imperial clansmen, viz., one named Sung T'ien, Ming Hai, who was under conviction for an offence committed, and Ming Shên, since deceased, came in one after the other to do some betting. Shortly afterwards, the bowl being with Sung T'ien, he was a loser to the extent of four dominoes; but the priest Wang believed that the number was in reality five. When the bowl was lifted, Sung T'ien concealed one of the dominoes, whereupon an altercation arose between himself and Wang, the latter exclaiming. "You and your yellow-red girdle! All you are fit for is to swindle! You never think of acting decently!" (N.B.—The allusion to the colour of the Imperial clansman's girdle implies that he was a man disgraced for misconduct.) High words continued between the two, until Wang, drawing a double-barrelled foreign pistol, loaded and capped it, and was about to fire at Ming Hai. The latter, fearing he was about to get the worst of it, snatched up a sharp-pointed knife, and made a threatening plunge with it in the direction of Wang, the result being that the latter was stabbed in the abdomen, and fell down with a loud cry, dying shortly afterwards from the effects of the wound. An alarm being given by deceased's mother, the parties were taken into custody, and sundry trials have been held, the result of which has been unsatisfactory. A special court has now been convened by the memorialist's orders, at which a Secretary of the Board of Punishments has presided, with the local Superintendent of the Imperial clansmen acting as Assessor. Ming Hai is sentenced to death by strangulation, according to statute, for the act of murder in the course of a personal encounter of which he is proved guilty, and to be confined in the Prison of the Clan Court pending confirmation of his sentence. The keeper of the gambling table, Lin Siang, and the other individuals concerned, are respectively sentenced to bastinadoing and temporary banishment, according to law.—Referred by rescript for the consideration of the Imperial Clan Court.

(2) Yüan Pao-hêng, a senior vice-President of the Board of Punishments, memorializes referring to the tokens of Imperial favour which were bestowed, on four different occasions during the two late reigns, upon his grandmother, in whose honour, moreover, a monument commemorating her arrival at the age of 100 years was erected. In December, 1873, while holding the post of Commissary General for the supplies of the Army in Kansuh, he received three months' leave of absence from his late Majesty, to enable him to pay his grandmother a visit; and both memorialist and all his household are penetrated with boundless gratitude for the distinguished favours they have enjoyed. In August, 1875, memorialist's grandmother died at the family home, as was duly reported at the time by the Governor of Honan. During the two years that have

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elapsed since then, no steps have been taken toward interment of the remains, owing to unsatisfactory circumstances connected with the burial ground; but it has been declared by the geomancers that the sixth moon of the present year will be a favourable time for completing this ceremony. Memorialist has to submit that his late father, Yüan Kia-san, formerly Director-General of the Grain Transport, died in 1863 whilst in command of the forces at Ch'ên-chow, whilst his two uncles and two brothers likewise died within a few years afterwards. He is the senior of the family at present, and as such, the duty of attending to the funeral rites devolves upon himself. His family home, at Hiang-ch'êng Hien, in Honan, is 2,000 *li* from Peking, and can be reached in twenty days' journey. He entreats therefore that he may have two months' congé to enable him to repair to his home, and discharge the duty that is incumbent upon him.—Rescript, sanctioning the application, already published.

July 2nd.—(1 and 2) Ting Pao-chêng, newly appointed Governor-General of Sze-ch'wan, memorializes reporting his arrival at Chêng-tu Fu on the 3rd May, and his assumption of office six days later; and Wêng kêh, the late acting incumbent of the post, similarly reports his having handed over the seals of office on the 19th May, and his being about to take his departure for Peking to have audience, as he has been commanded by decree.

July 3rd.—(1) The Prince of Kung, as Captain-General of the Plain White Banner of the Manchu force, memorializes soliciting a manifestation of the Imperial favour on behalf of the mother of Ngên Ch'êng, a senior Vice-President of the Board of Civil Office, who has reached the age of ninety-seven, and who is remarkable for the vigour her constitution still displays as well as for the correctness of her conduct throughout life. Her son, being a member of the Banner in question, has submitted the needful particulars required by regulation under such circumstances.—For rescript see *Gazette* of June 15th.

(2) Wên Che, Superintendent of the Imperial manufactory at Soochow, memorializes reporting the measures taken in execution of the order for thirty-five jade-stone seals, as reported in the *Gazette* of the 3rd November last. Great difficulty has been experienced in procuring the requisite materials for 32 of these seals, which have now been forwarded to Peking; and three still remain to be cut.

(3) Wên Lin, Superintendent of the Hwai-ngan Customs, reports that the amount of duty on Opium collected at the Hwai-ngan and Suh-chow barriers during the period from 13th March, 1875, to May 10th, 1877, being two years and two months, was Tls. 12,934.0.1, which amount has been transmitted to the Board of Revenue.

Public Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At the Meeting of the Council, held in the Council Room, 17, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Monday, the 9th July, 1877, at 9 o'clock A.M.

Present—Messrs. J. Hart (Chairman), Geo. J.. W. Cowie, P. G. Hübbe, A. McLeod, E. H. Lavers, E. G. Low, and the Secretary.

The Minutes of the previous meeting are read and confirmed, and passed for publication.

Cash Statement for week ending 7th inst. is submitted, and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

Staff.—Applications for the vacant post of Collector and Overseer of Municipal Rates and Dues are considered.

Seward Road.—Some Chinese houses having been built in the line of the extension of the Seward Road, it is resolved to beg the U.S. Vice-Consul-General to take such steps as may appear to him most desirable to have the buildings removed, and to prevent similar encroachments whilst negotiations for the road are going on.

Pontoons.—It is agreed to build a new iron pontoon instead of going to the heavy expense necessary to repair the wooden one, at the end of the Peking Road, damaged by the typhoon of the 3rd instant.

Rounding Corners—Canton Road and Bund N.W.—The offer of about ten feet from Lots 14 and 14A, to allow of the rounding of this corner, is accepted.

Correspondence.

THE MARGARY PUBLIC MEMORIAL.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

DEAR SIR,—Before calling a Meeting of Subscribers to discuss the Designs that have been prepared in accordance with their invitation, and which are on view at the Club, it may be well to give some idea of the probable cost of such; and the Committee would feel obliged if you would give a portion of your space for the following statement:—

Estimated cost of—	Tls.
Design from Wm. Danby, Esq., E.C., Hongkong, 50 feet high, erected in Shanghai	3,000.00
Designs from Messrs. Kidner & Cory, Shanghai, Runic Cross, Monolith, 15 feet high, from *visible* base (not including the steps)	2,200.00
If made of several pieces, probably (not including the steps)	1,000.00
Gothic design, 36 feet high, erected, about	1,387.00
Design from Thomas W. Kingsmill, Esq., Shanghai, 50 feet high, (including cross &c., to be obtained from England), erected	2,000.00
Designs from Alex. McDonald Field & Co., Aberdeen, No. 1994, 24 feet high, 15 tons, F.O.B.	1,432.50
No. 1995, 24 feet high, 14 tons, F.O.B.	1,335.00
Inscription, probably	75.00
Designs from C. Leslie Jamieson, Aberdeen, No. 826, about 18 feet, about 9 tons each, F.O.B.	1,275.00
No. 827, " " " " "	1,125.00
" 829, " " " " "	1,181.25

The following Account will at once show the Subscribers which designs are within their means:—

MARGARY PUBLIC MEMORIAL FUND.

Dr.

1876,			
Dec. 1.—To Balance brought forward	...		15.17
" 30.—To Advertising in *N.-C. Herald*...	34.50	...	
1877,			
June 30.—To paid as per vouchers	40.94		75.44
" To Balance carried down	...		1,513.45
			1,604.06

Cr.

1876,			
Dec. 1.—By Balance brought forward			1,174.90
" 30.—By Further subscriptions in 1876	58.42		
By Interest to date 1877, @ 2 %	7.40		
June 30.—By Subscriptions to date	350.69		
By Interest to date @ 2 %	12.65		
			429.16
			1,604.06

1877,
July 1.—By Balance brought down, with Hongkong and Shanghai Bank 1,513.45

Shanghai, 1st July, 1877.

W. B. CHALMERS,
Hon. Secy. and Treasurer.

Examined with vouchers and found correct,
CHAS. J. DUDGEON.

I am, dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
W. B. CHALMERS,
Hon. Sec.

Miscellaneous.

THE CAREER OF A SHANGHAI VISITOR.

Among the passengers who arrived at Shanghai by the steamer *Amoy*, from Canton, on the 27th ult., was a middle-aged man of good address and gentlemanly bearing. He had the appearance and brogue of an American; and from his conversation seemed to be acquainted with the leading gentlemen in the place. But fortune had not smiled on him lately, and he was without money. However, his sociability had ingratiated him in the good graces of two of the officers of the *Amoy*, and they guaranteed to pay a month's expenses for him at the Temperance Hall. He took up his abode at the Hall, and for a week or ten days he seemed to be well satisfied with the treatment he there received. Some three or four persons, however, happened to arrive at the Hall, who were conversant with his proceedings at Canton; and he seemed particularly anxious to renew their acquaintance. It was to his interest that he should be successful in this respect, but his friendliness was received with contempt. Not to be outdone by rebuffs, he became more pressing in his demand to be reinstalled as one of their party, and on this account, and the frequent visitors he had in the way of natives importuning him for money, he was requested to find quarters elsewhere. This was no doubt a difficulty not easily to be surmounted, circumstanced as he was without money or credit; and it is at this juncture that his doings become noteworthy and more than interesting to several of the tradesmen in the Nanking Road. A good address is all that is required to obtain goods without immediate payment, and a customer living in the luxury of an hotel is too good to be missed. With this conviction no doubt on his mind, he assumed the appearance of a traveller, presented himself at the Central and asked for accommodation, representing that he had been staying at the Astor House for a week, was dissatisfied with his rooms there, and wished for something superior. The bait was skilfully given and quickly taken; and "the gentleman from the Astor" was forthwith shown the rooms which were vacant and naturally enough he selected the best one in the house, and all attention was, as a matter of course, paid to his comfort. It was on the 12th instant that his audacity installed him at the Central, and on the same day he visited Messrs. Hall and Holtz's establishment to favour them with his custom. His appearance by those he came in contact with there was considered to be scarcely that of a well-to-do person; but his address was the Central Hotel; it was a conclusive proof that he must have money, or how could he travel? and, moreover, a wealthy American cannot always be detected by his dress, for generally they display strange ideas in this respect. These and similar considerations had great weight, and he was allowed to run up an account to the amount of nearly $120, and his purchases were duly conveyed to the Central. Not to be exclusive in conferring his

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favours, he afterwards visited Messrs. Sayle & Co., who had the pleasure of crediting him with $35. Mr. Wennmolis was not to be left out in the cold, and a similar amount was booked to "the gentleman at the Central," at his establishment. New clothing has sometimes an unpleasant odour, and to banish this Messrs. Watson, Cleave and Co., and Messers. Llewellyn and Co., were each favoured with his custom for the latest novelties in the art of perfumery. While this patronage was being so miscellaneously bestowed on the Nanking Road tradesmen, information was received at the Central that the traveller in the best room had not been staying at the Astor House, and that several persons at Canton had unpleasant recollections of his sojourning amongst them. This news caused the manager to present his bill, and the guest promised payment at ten o'clock that evening —Tuesday last. After dinner he went out for a stroll, and did not return, leaving his luggage, consisting mainly of his unpaid-for purchases, for the benefit of those concerned. It was generally believed that he had gone to Japan by the *Argentino;* but late the following evening he called at the Hermitage, at Siccawei, with a fair companion, and obtained refreshments to the extent of $7.75. The chit was drawn on the compradore of the Central Hotel, and when presented next morning it was dishonoured—there were no funds in hand belonging to the gentleman in question. The police were communicated with, and the whereabouts of "the gentleman" were discovered. Before the law could interfere with his gaiety, his nationality had to be ascertained. This was ultimately accomplished, and then the house in which he was located was watched until a warrant could be obtained for his apprehension. The facts of his Shanghai career were represented to O. B. Bradford, Esq., United States Vice-Consul General, who thereupon issued the requisite document; and shortly afterwards he was in durance vile at the American Consulate. Later in the day he was taken before O. B. Bradford, Esq., when he stated that his name was Frank Pierce Richmond, and that he was a native of Baltimore, Maryland. He acknowledged having purchased a quantity of goods in Shanghai and not having paid for them, but he was expecting money from home. The Vice-Consul General remanded him in custody.

Law Reports.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, July 13th.

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq.

J. Claus *v.* U. Baldwin.

This was a claim for $10.33, balance of account.

Defendant did not appear, and the Usher having proved the service of the summons, a verdict was entered for the amount claimed, with costs.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 14th July.

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq.

R. (Police) *v.* Matthew Joyce and Peter Carse.

Drunkenness.

Prisoners are able seamen belonging to the *City of Aberdeen*, and were separately charged with drunkenness on the previous night, the former on the Yang-king-pang, and the latter in the Public Garden, where he had wandered and broken three flower pots.

Neither of them remembered what had occurred; but there was no proof as to the breakage of the pots.

They were cautioned, and ordered to pay the costs of the Court.

R. (Captain Hellen) *v.* James Phillips, C. Mea, and S. Harestol.

Absent without Leave.

Prisoners, all men of colour, are sailors on board the *Lizzie*, and were charged with being absent from the vessel without leave since the 11th instant.

The Captain stated that each prisoner left the ship alone and none of them returned.

Prisoners urged that they had leave to go ashore from the second mate.

This was denied.

Mr. Tapp, H.B.M.'s Registrar of Shipping, informed the Court that the prisoners wanted to leave the ship. The Captain was willing to discharge them, but they claimed French nationality and the French authorities disowned them; they could not find security, and therefore there was no alternative but for them to remain in the ship unless they became an expense to the Government. There were too many of this class of men on shore already.

His Worship sent them to prison for fourteen days each, with instructions that they be put on board if the vessel sailed earlier.

17th July.

R. *v.* Captain Hellen.

Destroying Entries in an Official Log.

Defendant is Captain of the British schooner *Lizzie*, and he was summoned by Mr. W. Handyside Tapp, H.B.M.'s Registrar of Shipping, for destroying entries in his official log in contravention of the Merchant Shipping Act.

Defendant denied the charge.

Mr. Tapp deposed—I produce the defendant's official log-book, which was brought to my office by himself. Pages 7 to 12 have been cut out. My attention was called to these leaves being missing on Saturday last, and I at once wrote to the defendant for an explanation. He came to my office, but did not give a satisfactory account as to why the leaves had been destroyed; on the contrary he was very excited and got into a great rage. I could get nothing satisfactory from him, and therefore had no alternative but to bring him before the Court.

Defendant denied that he flew into a rage; it was Mr. Tapp who was in the rage and he could not made him understand his explanation. The log-book was an old one he used on a voyage seven or eight years ago, and the entries which were on the leaves he tore out referred to that voyage. He did not get a new log when he left Sydney to come here and used this old one, and took out the leaves to have a clean book for the passage.

Mr. Tapp said it was very strange that the names of the crew for this voyage were entered on the first page.

Defendant said he entered the names there to make them agree with those at the end of the book, and in answer to his Worship said the same officers were with him now. He became excited and repeated that Mr. Tapplost his temper in the Shipping Office and abused him without cause. The log-book contained everything relating to the last voyage, and the entries were all consecutive. Mr. Tapp was well-known in the Colonies, London, and all over, as too narrow-minded for the position he held, and he (Mr. Tapp) was making the Shipping Office a regular "Hell upon earth" for those Captains he did not like; but to those he liked he was very obliging and would do everything to oblige them. It was all *animus* that had caused him to take these proceedings; and a man with such a narrow mind was not fit or qualified for the position he held.

His Worship—And you behave in this excited manner, and make these intemperate statements, and still want me to believe that it was not you, but Mr. Tapp who lost temper yesterday, and that it was he who abused you.

The defendant protested that he did not lose his temper; it was all Mr. Tapp, and these proceedings were the result of his *animus* and narrow mind. The absence of the leaves in the log-book did not affect the last voyage in the least. All the entries were in proper order; and if his word was not sufficient that the book contained everything worth logging that had occurred during the passage, the crew could be summoned and asked about it.

His Worship said that would not alter his position; he was charged with wilfully destroying certain entries in the book which was his official log for the voyage, as was shown by the entry in his own hand-writing on the first page—and the only question was, had he done so or not?

The defendant said he had not destroyed any entries relating to this voyage, and surely the Court was not going to consider things belonging to another voyage.

His Worship replied that he was dealing with the official log from Sydney, the only one that there was, and on looking into it he found that the leaves from page 7 to page 12 had gone. What was written on those leaves might be the most stupid matter possible, or, as the defendant said, what was written on them might relate to seven or eight years ago; still they should have been allowed to remain in the book, as being the log-book of the ship for that voyage. It was very easy to say, now that the leaves were gone, that the entries on them all related to old matters.

Defendant urged that his official log contained a full and consecutive account of everything that took place during the passage from Sydney, which could be proved by the crew. What more could be wanted?

His Worship said that did not do away with the fact of the leaves having been destroyed. When entries had once been written on them, they were to remain; if Captains were allowed to cut out the leaves as they liked, there could never be any certainty about what had been entered, and the logs would be of very little use.

Defendant, with due respect to his Worship, submitted that he had no business to take notice of anything that had reference to a voyage seven years ago; and that was what the entries on the missing leaves referred to. He then indulged in further extravagant language respecting the conduct of Mr. Tapp, saying that he had sailed all over the world and had never been treated in such a disgraceful fashion.

His Worship said Mr. Tapp was now out of the question; he (his Worship) had to decide the case and had no *animus* against him (defendant), but wished to give him every opportunity to say what he had to say. His manner in Court only showed that he must be a very difficult man to deal with outside. Such imputations on Mr. Tapp were uncalled for, for Mr. Tapp had only done his duty in bringing the case into Court.

Defendant continued to abuse Mr. Tapp, asserting again that it was only *animus* that had actuated him to take the proceedings.

His Worship asked defendant if he had finished his defence. He would listen to all he had to say, but when he had finished he must not interrupt, for he (his Worship) had tried two or three times to explain the case to him and give his decision, but had hardly commenced when he had to stop for the defendant. He had already allowed him great latitude, and now he must say all and finish, and then be quiet.

Defendant had nothing to say further than that his official log was strictly regular and in order; it contained everything that was worth logging during his voyage from Sydney, and the crew could confirm him on this point. That was all he could say, and what else was wanted. If his Worship was going to consider entries made in the book seven years ago, he must say it was beyond his comprehension altogether; and the best thing he could do was to burn all the old log books he had in his possession, for perhaps he would be next summoned for entries he made twenty years ago. He had nothing further to say.

His Worship hoped he would now remain quiet until he gave his decision. As he had said before, what defendant had stated had no bearing on the case in the least. It was not a question whether the entries in the official log appeared regular and in strict order, nor was it a question whether the crew could confirm what he had said about all the events having been logged during the passage and were now in the book, but the question was—were there ever entries in the book (his official log for the present voyage) which were not there now, and if so how did it come about that they were not there now? The law was very clear. It required that an official log should be kept of every voyage, and forbade entries once made therein being destroyed. In this log-book he found that pages 7 to 12 had been destroyed; and what

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remained of the pages showed that they had been largely written upon. Those pages could not be destroyed by accident, and defendant did not pretend to say that anybody but himself destroyed them, and it followed therefore that he wilfully destroyed them. For the information of Captains, a portion of the Merchant Shipping Act was printed and placed in official log-books, and in the defendant's log-book now before him was the very clause of the Act of Parliament under which he was being proceeded against. There was no question that defendant had brought himself within the letter of that Act of Parliament, and so, accordingly, this was a case for punishment. What should the punishment be? It was a very wise provision in the Act of Parliament that entries in an official log-book should not be destroyed; there was always suspicion attaching to the destruction of anything that had been written, and that is why it was the policy of the law to prevent it in these cases. It was possible that defendant might have thought he was doing no wrong in what he had done, but he had committed the offence all the same. As a matter of fact, he was very strongly inclined to believe the entries on the pages that had been destroyed related to the defendant's last passage and not to an earlier voyage, as he represented. However, that was not necessary for the decision; the log-book was the log-book of the ship for that voyage, and entries in it had been wilfully destroyed. Defendant had further indulged in a great deal of comment on Mr. Tapp's action in the matter. It appeared that as soon as Mr. Tapp was informed that there were pages missing from the log-book, he took the reasonable course of writing to the defendant for an explanation. That explanation was not satisfactory, and then Mr. Tapp took these proceedings. Mr. Tapp had done nothing improper, but on the contrary was justified in the action he took—and if he had not done what he had done, would not have performed his duty.

Defendant interrupted and said his log was in the Shipping Office several days before he heard anything about the matter. And, further, he would like to know whether Mr. Tapp was right in keeping his log-book after he had demanded it.

His WORSHIP said it was quite likely the log-book was in Mr. Tapp's office several days before it was opened, but as soon as the missing leaves were brought to Mr. Tapp's notice he wrote to the defendant. If Mr. Tapp had handed over the log-book to the defendant, and it had not been forthcoming to-day, the proceedings would have fallen through. Therefore, Mr. Tapp was right in keeping it till the case was disposed of.—The next thing he had to consider was the punishment to be inflicted on the defendant. The law regarded the offence as one of great gravity, and punishable with six months' imprisonment or a fine of £100. From the way in which defendant had conducted himself in Court, and the imputations he had cast on Mr. Tapp for doing nothing more than his duty required him to do, he should punish him more severely than he otherwise should have done. He (His Worship) was glad the case had been brought into Court, and hoped it would be an example to the defendant and also to all the other Captains in the port, that their official logs were not to be tampered with. He should fine the defendant $50 and the costs.

Mr. TAPP asked for the log-book to be impounded, and his application was acceded to.

July 18th.

R. (POLICE) *v.* JOHN ATKINSON.

Furious Driving.

Defendant was charged with furious and reckless driving on the Broadway, Hongkew, at half-past nine o'clock the previous night.

Defendant denied that he was driving furiously and said the pony was under perfect control.

Mr. STRIPLING said the facts of the case were that the defendant and a friend were driving along the Broadway, having apparently been to the Camp. There was another carriage in front and defendant seemed as if he wanted he pass it, but before he could do so he ran into a trap belonging to a Chinaman and broke it. A native constable, a foreign sergeant, and other witnesses could prove these facts.

Defendant said he would admit he was going pretty fast, but the pony was in hand, and running into the Chinaman's trap was an accident.

The mafoo, who was with the defendant, stated that he told him he was going too fast opposite the Ningpo Wharf. Defendant told him it was his "pidgin," and he was to say no more.

The Chinaman whose trap was damaged, said defendant was going too quickly. It would cost Tls 6 to repair his trap.

His WORSHIP said there was no doubt defendant was driving much too fast—the pace must have been fast before the mafoo would interfere—and he would have to pay a fine of $10 and the costs; and he also advised him to pay the Chinaman the Tls. 6 for the damage he had done.

Defendant said he would act on the advice of the Court.

July 19th.

R. (Captain YEXLEY) *v.* WILLIAM DEACON.

An Unruly Sailor.

Defendant, an A.B. on the *Albert Victor*, was summoned for using abusive language to the Captain, for being absent from the vessel without leave, and for disobedience of lawful orders.

Defendant, in answer to his Worship, said the Captain was more to blame than he was. He asked him if he could go to church on Sunday, and the Captain refused to give him leave and swore at him. He then said something to the Captain, and afterwards went ashore without leave.

The CAPTAIN said he told defendant his Worship's orders were that the men on the ship were not to go ashore, in consequence of the way in which they had misbehaved themselves. Defendant snapped his fingers in his face, and said he did not care for all the Magistrates and Consuls in Shanghai; he was going ashore, and he immediately ran forward and went over the bow. He denied using bad language to the defendant, who was away without leave from two o'clock in the afternoon until twenty minutes to ten at night.

In answer to his Worship, the Captain said the man Frederick Mace had come out of gaol and was behaving well on board the ship.

His WORSHIP said he should send the defendant to gaol, and then perhaps he would behave himself—unruly conduct could not be allowed. He should deal with him for being absent from the vessel without leave, and on that charge commit him to prison for fourteen day.

Defendant asked for his discharge from the ship when he left the gaol.

His WORSHIP told him that was a matter which rested solely between himself and the Captain.

July 20th.

R. (POLICE) *v.* CHARLES ROBINSON, FRANCIS LE DREN, and EVANS DAVIES.

Drunkenness.

Robinson is a fireman on board the steamer *Nankin*, and the other two prisoners are sailors belonging to the brig *Santon*. They were separately charged with drunkenness on the Broadway, Hongkew, on the previous night.

They were each cautioned, and ordered to pay the costs of the Court.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, 13th July.

Before the Chinese Magistrate CHEN, and C. T. GARDENER, Esq., *British Assessor*.

Mr. ROBINSON appeared for the prosecution.

Mr. DRUMMOND conducted the defence.

Conspiring to Defraud by giving False Evidence.

The hearing of this case, adjourned from the 11th instant, was resumed to-day.

Mr. DRUMMOND stated that when the case was last before the Court, the accused, Ho Chui-tsai, seemed to have made a statement which was not exactly correct, in fact it was wholly incorrect. The reason he did not appear on the last occasion was because he did not know the case was coming before the Court when it did. He was told last Saturday by Chang Van-ho that the accused had been arrested, and he then told him he could do nothing in the matter then, but when the case came before the Court he would appear for him. Chang Van-ho did not return to tell him when the case was coming on, and he was not aware that it was before the Court until he saw the report in the *Daily News*. He made this personal explanation because he thought it was due to the accused and himself too. He would now like to know whether Chang Van-ho was under arrest or not, and what was the charge to be preferred against him.

The ASSESSOR said he did not understand that Chang Van-ho had been arrested; he was simply removed from the Court so that he could not hear what the prisoner was saying, but Mr. Robinson stated that he should prefer a charge against him. In consequence of what Mr. Robinson said, Chang Van-ho was taken care of by the police, and he supposed that he would now be brought up and formally charged with the other prisoner.

Mr. DRUMMOND objected to Chang Van-ho being retained in custody, or even asked to give bail for his appearance, until some evidence was produced showing what was the charge against him, and to justify such a course being taken.

Mr. ROBINSON replied that the prosecutors charged Chang Van-ho with precisely the same offences as the other prisoner, viz., conspiracy to defraud the prosecutors by giving false evidence in the Supreme Court, and with also giving false evidence in an English Court of Justice, which was simply in English law the offence of perjury; and to supply sufficient primâ faciè evidence against him out of his own mouth, after the three witnesses already called, by asking him one question—Whether the other prisoner was his supercargo when the junk was lost?

The ASSESSOR was of opinion that that would be sufficient, and he believed the Magistrate was willing to call upon both the men to find security for their appearance in a fortnight.

Mr. DRUMMOND objected to either of the accused being asked to give evidence against themselves, and also to giving evidence against each other; such a course was contrary to English law. And with regard to the evidence Mr. Robinson had already called, there was nothing new in it. The three witnesses who had been examined—the captain, the compradore, and the steward of the *Tunsin*—were fully examined in the collision case before Sir Edmund Hornby, and their evidence was duly weighed and decision given upon it. So far his learned friend had called no further evidence, and all they had now had been elsewhere sifted and weighed and a decision given adverse to the prosecutors. The present proceedings appeared an ingenious attempt to obtain a rehearing of a case which had already been decided.

The ASSESSOR said that the Court had been told by Mr. Robinson, a member of a learned and honourable profession, that he was instructed he would be able to produce further evidence; and he failed to see how either Chang Van-ho or the other prisoner could be put to any inconvenience by being bailed to appear in a fortnight. They were waiting in Shanghai to receive money, how could they be put to any inconvenience?

Mr. DRUMMOND said he was not sure either of the prisoners could find bail; Ho Chui-tsai had not been able to do up to the present time.

Mr. ROBINSON preferred that the men should be retained in custody.

The ASSESSOR said it was a bailable offence, and the Court was bound to accept security for their appearance on another occasion.

The MAGISTRATE endorsed the opinion of the Assesssor.

CHANG VAN-HO was then brought forward and formally charged with conspiring to defraud the prosecutors by giving false evidence in H. B. M.'s Supreme Court, in the *Tunsin* case, and with prejury.

Mr. DRUMMOND said in the interests of his clients he should take two or three objections to the mode of the present proceedings. English law was taken by them as a guide and for its many useful principles, and it was among the first principles of English law that a man was not allowed to convict himself out of his own mouth, and that no accomplice could give evidence against another man charged with the same crime. In English law no such

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thing could be done; such evidence was not admissible in English Courts, and the evidence of an accomplice was excluded not with the view to bliud justice but because it was considered untrustworthy.

The Assessor observed that Chinese law was quite different; it went too far in one direction and obtained confessions by torture, while the English law went to extremes in the other direction. The law to be administered there, and everything with regard to procedure, was entirely in the hands of the Court. With regard to English law they could only bring English principles and English practices to the notice of the Court.

Further discussion took place, Mr. Drummond laying particular stress on the absence of further testimony than that which was given in the Supreme Court, and the objections there were to questioning an accused and accomplices.

The Assessor said both the magistrate and himself had acted on what Mr. Robinson, a respectable practitioner in an honourable profession, had said, that he was instructed he would be able to produce other witnesses; and with regard to questioning accused and accomplices Chinese law was quite contrary to English law. But he would, however, ask the opinion of the magistrate on the point.

Mr. Robinson said he had already seen one additional witness and expected to see others in the course of a few days.

Mr. Drummond's objections having been interpreted,

The Magistrate said the eternal principles of justice were the same in every country, and the difference was only the mode of procedure in different countries. Chinese law and English law only differed in the mode of procedure; the great principle was the same. On a point where the Chinese law was silent, he made a practice of consulting English law as a guide; but where the Chinese law was distinct, it could not be departed from. It was distinct on this point; they could take the evidence of an accused and convict him on it. The evidence of an accomplice could be taken, but it was not taken as proof in itself; it had to be confirmed, and if not confirmed it was not held to be good.

The Assessor mentioned that the point of law what guided the Court had been considered by Li Hung-chang and Sir Thomas Wade, and there was a clause in the Chefoo Convention stating expressely that the law of the person charged was to be the law regulating the proceedings. The Convention had not been ratified; the principle it laid down was clear, and there was no doubt on the point.

The Magistrate could not see any hardship whatever in calling upon the accused to find security. They were in Shanghai expecting to receive money, and that was a good reason that they would not run away, and it would not be difficult for them to obtain security.

Mr. Drummond was afraid that it would be.

Chang Van-ho was then questioned by Mr. Robinson, and repeated the statement he made in the Supreme Court that the other prisoner was his supercargo at the time the junk was lost. He was well acquainted with him, knew him as a child born into the Ho family, and had known him as Ho Chui-tsai and Tseng Jui-tang.

Mr. Drummond asked for the magistrate to be impressed with the fact that fifteen months had elapsed since the decision on the collision case, and yet they had no further evidence. He also asked for the prisoners to be compensated by the prosecutors, in case the Court should believe there had not been sufficient grounds for instituting these proceedings.

Mr. Robinson contended that he had already shown reasonable cause for bringing the charge against the prisoners; then why should the prosecutors be asked to give security for compensation.

The Assessor said the prosecutors were beyond the jurisdiction of the Court, and precedents were in favour of Mr. Drummond's application. It was only reasonable that they should have some security against vexatious litigation, and compensating the people charged was the principle that had been adopted.

The Magistrate said there were several precedents on the point. His instructions were clear and in accord with the 10th rule of the Court.

Mr. Robinson said that to meet the magistrates views, he was instructed by his clients to say that in case the Court, after hearing the evidence, should think that there were no reasonable grounds for bringing the charge against the prisoners, the prosecutors would make them such compensation as the Court might think equitable.

It was then decided that the further hearing of the case should be adjourned for a fortnight, when the prosecution is to be prepared with additional evidence; that the prisoners should be handed over to the magistrate, and security on his approval accepted for their appearance; and that Mr. Robinson should give a written undertaking on behalf of his clients to compensate the prisoners in case the Court should be of opinion that there had not been sufficient grounds for instituting the proceedings.

July 18th.

Complaint of Nuisance.

The lessees of the two native Theatres contiguous to the premises of the London Mission, in Shantung Road, were summoned for creating a nuisance.

The Rev. W. Muirhead, who had instituted the proceedings, was first called.

The Assessor said that he understood the Theatres were considered a nuisance on account of the noise made in them from three o'clock in the afternoon until three or four o'clock in the morning.

Witness said they heard the noise in the afternoon but did not wish to complain of it. It was the noise during the night they wished to be stopped. Generally it ceased about half-past one o'clock, but sometimes it was continued far into the morning. There was an invalid now in his house who complained greatly of the noise. At night the din was exceedingly unpleasant and troublesome, and at bedtime the sound of the various instruments was enough to prevent anyone sleeping, and after they got asleep they were woke up two or three times by the noise. It was so bad that it was most desirable that something should be done to effect a remedy.

Dr. Johnston stated that in his opinion the Theatres were simply an intolerable nuisance, and always had been. In the summer months, when one did not sleep very soundly and the windows were open, it was almost impossible to obtain any sleep up to three o'clock in the morning. On an average he should say it was quite that hour when the din from the musical instruments ceased. In cases of sickness, it was simply a matter of persons suffering very much indeed, and no doubt such unpleasant noises tended to prevent their speedy recovery. When the wind was in a westerly direction the noise was hideous, and on the verandah of his house it was quite deafening.

In answer to the Assessor, Dr. Johnston said in the hot weather sleep was particularly desirable, and if deprived of it the body became enfeebled. Sleep was absolutely necessary to good health. Two striking instances of this had recently been under his notice. Two ladies living in his compound had been ill, and their illness had been much intensified, and in a great degree their recovery prevented, by want of sleep.

The Assessor inquired whether the Theatres caused crowds to assemble who made a riotous noise to the annoyance of the public.

Dr. Johnston said there was very little noise from the people in the Theatre; but several times he had been on the point of indicting the persons living in the neighboring alley for the noise they made independent of the Theatre.

Mr. Stripling explained that the majority of the houses in the ally were houses of ill-fame.

The Magistrate said he had no questions to ask Dr. Johnston. He perfectly understood that he came forward in the interests of the public, to say that in his opinion the health of the people living in this neighbourhood suffered from the noise from the Theatres, and that the recovery of those who were sick was retarded by it.

Dr. Johnston said the nuisance seemed to have increased lately, or it was that they felt it more during the summer than in the winter.

The Magistrate said the complainants would feel the noise more in the summer, because the wind being S.E. would take it in the direction of their houses.

Mr. Stripling informed the Court that complaints had been made against the same Theatres before.

The Assessor said he would look up the files of the Court.

The Rev. E. R. Barrett confirmed what had been said by the last two witnesses. His house were nearer to the Theatres than theirs, and consequently he got the noise in a greater degree. It was impossible to sleep on account of the din from the wooden drums used by the Chinese; and one party in his house suffered from it very much; and the continual irritation it occasioned was producing very distressing symptoms.

This concluded the evidence on behalf of the complainants.

Defendants did not deny that all was true the complainants had stated. To them the theatres might be a nuisance but it was lawful that they should exist. They would take steps to lessen the noise as much as possible.

The decision of the Magistrate and the Assessor was reserved.

The Rev. W. Muirhead said there were two or three other houses, in close proximity to the Mission premises, which were a great nuisance, and he would like to know if he could take proceedings against them also.

The Assessor replied in the affirmative, explaining that it was a rule of the Court that if the Magistrate considered any charge to be of a vexatious nature, the defendants should be compensated for the loss of their time.

Kidnapping.

Two Cantonese, one a professional actor and the other a coolie employed at a foreign hong, were charged with the abduction of a boy fourteen years of age. It appears that the boy's father went to Hankow at the opening of the tea season, and during his absence the prisoners took the boy to Theatres and other sing-song houses several times; and afterwards prevailed upon him to obtain his clothing from his father's house. This the boy did, and the prisoners pawned the clothing he brought them. The father suddenly returned home, and the prisoners, telling the boy he would be punished for stealing his clothing, persuaded him to accompany them to Hongkong. All arrangements were made to go thither, tickets being taken of a foreign firm for the passage; but the father, hearing what had transpired during his absence, communicated with the Police. The boy was found by them at Hongkew, and the prisoners were apprehended. The pawntickets and the passage tickets were found in their possession. These facts having been deposed to by the boy and other witnesses, the coolie prisoner, who had been most prominent in the affair, was sentenced to five years' imprisonment and the other prisoner to three years' imprisonment. The Assessor announced that these sentences had been passed subject to the approval of A. Davenport, Esq., H.B.M.'s Consul, and the Taotai.

July 19th.

Gilman & Co. *v.* Ting Ping-tsai.

This was a claim for Tls. 1,448.48, lost on a shipment of nine bales of silk to Europe, in September, 1876. The case was heard on the 14th of May last, and fully reported in the *Daily News*. A verdict was then given for the amount claimed with costs, the money to be paid in a fortnight; but subsequently defeudant applied for a rehearing of the case, and this was the nature of the proceedings to-day.

The point in dispute between the parties was whether the silk was sold to Gilman and Co. by the defendant, or whether it was shipped by them on defendant's account. It was agreed that the market rate was to be Tls. 660 per picul, and plaintiffs advanced Tls. 620. For the plaintiffs it was contended that they shipped the silk for the defendant, and that when the account sales arrived and showed a loss of Tls. 1,448 he disputed his liability. Defendant urged that he sold the silk out and out to Gilman and Company, and that if it had realised a profit they would have received the benefit. At the former hearing three witness were called for the plaintiffs, while defendant's own statement was unsupported by evidence and on the point in dispute he contradicted himself, first stating that he sold the silk to Gilman and Co., and afterwards acknowledging that he shipped it on his own account, being

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persuaded to do so by Mr. Frank Gilman. Now, he denied having made such an admission, and said he never for a moment thought of asking the plaintiffs to ship the silk on his account; it was a sale to Gilman and Co., and they had to bear the loss.

The ASSESSOR pointed out that the statement the defendant had just made was just the reverse of the evidence he gave at the previous hearing, and which was in writing both in English and Chinese. He also denied what was written in his own petition to the Court.

Defendant said it was a mistake that he said at the last hearing the silk was shipped on his account; adding that if it was shipped and not sold out and out to Gilman and Company his signature would appear on the transaction in the plaintiffs' books.

Mr. LAVERS, of the firm of Gilman and Company, said it was not customary for Chinamen to always sign the book when they shipped silk on their own account. Sometimes the books were signed, but not always.

Defendant, in answer to Mr. Lavers, said in this transaction he acted as broker for the Chang-Kee Silk *Hong*. Had there been any profit it would have gone to Gilman and Co.; he should not have expected to receive it. The silk was sold to Gilman and Co. at the market price, not Tls. 40 less than market price. The custom was that whenever he signed the plaintiffs' book the silk was shipped by him; when he did not sign the book it was sold to Gilman and Co.

Mr. LAVERS replied that on the same day that they shipped the nine bales of silk for the defendant, they shipped twenty bales for another Chinaman named Yang Tah-sing, to whom they advanced ninety per cent. There was no agreement between them, and Yang Tah-sing did not sign the books. On that shipment there was a loss of Tls. 1,200, which was paid to them on the 23rd of June. He could bring forward other instances of this kind.

The plaintiffs' book containing the entries of transactions in silk with Chinamen was then inspected, in conjunction with some papers belonging to the defendant. Out of several entries, extending over three years, of transactions with the defendant, only one instance was found where he had signed the book, and Mr. Lavers explained that he was in Shanghai at the time of that transaction and made the defendant sign.

The MAGISTRATE said it was useless pursuing the examination further. The defendant had contradicted what he said on the previous occasion, and had denied what he had put into his own petition.

After some conversation, it was decided to adjourn the hearing to afford an opportunity for a thorough investigation to be made of all transactions that had taken place between the parties, to guide the decision of the Court.

INQUESTS.

DEATHS BY DROWNING AT SHANGHAI.

An enquiry into the circumstances attending the death of John Lawson, an A.B. on board the British barque *Sir Lancelot*, was held on Thursday afternoon at H.B.M.'s Consulate, before R. A. Mowat, Esq.

The following evidence was taken:—

William Barclay said—I am an A.B. on the barque *Sir Lancelot*, of Greenock. Between eleven and twelve o'clock a.m. on the 9th inst., I was aft, on a stage scrubbing, together with John Lawson. I was sitting down on the stage; he was standing up with a broom in his hand waiting until I had finished scraping. He was on the aft end of the stage; I was on the fore end. The stage was about seven feet long and one plank in width. It was low down on the ship's side. When I sat down on it my feet were in the water. We commenced to scrape and scrub the side of the ship about nine o'clock in the morning, and had shifted the stage two or three times. The stage looked perfectly safe. It was kept away from the side of the ship by two pieces of wood which were nailed to each end of the plank. There were five or six nails in each piece of wood fastening them to the plank. The stage was made by the carpenter. I was engaged scraping when suddenly one of the pieces of wood broke away from the plank. It was the piece at the end where I was sitting that broke, and the plank swung to the side of the ship, catching my legs between it and the ship's side. The reason the plank swung in was that the nails that fastened the cross piece to the plank either broke or came out. Lawson lost his balance and fell into the water. I don't know whether he could swim or not. I shouted out to the men on the vessel, "Sam is overboard, heave a line." The carpenter immediately threw a line overboard, other men on board lowered a boat, and the mate threw a life buoy over the stern. The tide was very strong at the time. Lawson never came to the surface at all; he went *right* down and we never saw him afterwards. The men in the boat picked up his hat. I don't know how long the men in the boat continued to look for him. I went on with my work scraping the vessel, but stood in the boat instead of on the plank.

JAMES H. MARTIN, chief office of the *Sir Lancelot*, deposed—Between eleven and twelve o'clock on the 9th of July, I was in the chief cabin when I heard the men on deck calling out something. I could not clearly understand what they said, but I imagined something to be the matter. I went on deck as quickly as possible, and asked what was the matter. One of the men told me that "Sam had fallen off the stage," which was over the starboard side of the ship. The stage was about two feet above the water. It was twelve feet long and eleven inches or a foot wide. It was kept away from the side of the ship by two pieces of wood, which were nailed at each end of it; and the lashings that supported it were passed round the plank and also round the two pieces of wood that kept it away from the ship's side. The stage appeared perfectly safe. I helped the boatswain to make it. It was strongly made, and we used three inch nails to fasten the wood to the plank. When I heard that Sam was overboard, I called out "Throw him a line." Three or four lines where immediately thrown over, and one was also made fast to the carpenter who was lowered over the ship's side to the water edge, so that he could get hold of him if he came to the surface. I was looking over the side of the ship to see where he was in the water, but as he did not appear I gave orders to lower a boat. It was done at once. The tide was slack at the time. It was not running strongly, but the water was very muddy. Sam never came to the surface at all. The men on board have since told me that he could not swim. The men in the boat continued to look for him for about half an hour. They picked up his hat close to where he fell into the water. I told them to pick up his hat and then drift down with the tide. They drifted nearly a mile, but saw nothing of him; and they then returned to the ship. It was the fore end of the stage that broke, and it was the result of its sudden breakage that caused Sam to lose his balance. I expect the other man must have stood on the edge, and so broke the fastening. The body has not been found yet to my knowledge.

A verdict was returned of "Accidental Death."

Friday afternoon R. A. Mowat, Esq., held an enquiry relative to the death of James Muncaster, cook of the British ship *Caller Ou*, who was drowned on the 12th inst.

WILLIAM STUART said—I am carpenter on the *Caller Ou*. I went ashore with the cook on Wednesday evening at seven o'clock. We had leave. We returned to the ship about half-past one o'clock the next morning, in a sampan. When we got close to the ship, the cook told me to get out first as he was used to sampans, while he held on to the accommodation ladder. I got out and went up the ladder. At the top I spoke to the chief officer, who asked where the cook was. I said he was coming up. I looked round and saw him in the water, just at the stern, about eighteen feet off. The chief officer ordered all hands into a boat that was lying astern. The second officer and three men got into the boat and pulled away in the direction the cook had gone. I remained on board till the boat came back. It returned without him. I heard a splash in the water but did not hear the cook cry out. I saw him striking out, as if trying to swim. (The Captain said the tide was running up very strongly at the time). I was sober; so was the cook. We each had had three pint bottles of porter, and one pint of bitter beer. When we left the ship we went to the *Achilles*, and there we had the porter with the carpenter of that vessel. We then went ashore and had the beer in a public-house. I don't understand how the cook got into the water. The last I saw of him was his holding on to the grating of the ladder while I got out of the sampan. He was quite sober. I did not think of throwing a buoy. He had told me he could swim.

WILLIAM CHARLES HOUGHTON deposed—I am chief officer of the *Caller Ou*. I was on the top of the ladder when the carpenter came on board. I asked him where the cook was and he replied that he was in the sampan. I went down the ladder to give him a hand, as having being ashore I thought he might have got a little to drink. He had let go the ladder, as the tide was running very strong. The boatman was sculling up again. The cook said to me, "I don't want any help," and with that as he was getting out he missed his footing. He had hold of the chain and was stepping to get on the ladder. The sampan was in front of the boat, and the tide was running very strong indeed. I heard the splash; he did not cry out. I told the sampan man to go after him, and I ran up the ladder and aft to heave a line. The Captain came on deck when I shouted out, and all hands who had just knocked off —a second anchor had just been let go, in consequence of the breeze blowing. When I heard the splash I looked and saw the cook sink. I never saw him again. I threw him a line. The buoys were lashed and I had not any knife. It was quite dark. The men could not see him when they went after him in the boat. The sampan went after him as soon as he fell into the water. I have heard him say he was no swimmer. The carpenter might have been a little the worse for what he had had, but the cook spoke to me all right.

Captain Ray, the master of the *Caller Ou*, stated that it was not three minutes from the time the alarm was given till his boat went after the deceased. It was away over an hour and a half. The sampan that brought deceased to the ship was not found—it was so dark.

A verdict that the deceased was accidentally drowned was returned.

Extracts.

THE REBELLION IN JAPAN.

The most important news brought by the *Tokio Maru* Thursday, respecting the progress of the rebellion is contained in the following extract from the *Japan Mail*:—

From what can be learnt of the progress of events in Kiushiu, it would appear that the struggle at present is concentrated in Hiuga, where the bulk of the Satsuma forces are supposed to be situated. It is the intention of the Imperialists to close them in with two bodies, one advancing from the north and the other from the south. The floods caused by the terrible rains that have prevailed to almost an unprecedented extent in Kiushiu, and the great heat, interfere with all the plans of the army. The condition of the troops in Kagoshima is said to be lamentable, and in Tokio it is currently reported that a plague has broken out in the city. The sickness is probably a virulent form of typhus, which together with dysentery has been making sad havoc among the troops since the commencement of the hot weather. The latest native advices state that Saigo, at the head of 500 of his body guards and 2,000 fresh troops, has left Miyako-no-jô for Shigioka in Bungo. General Murata has left for Yoshino with the insurgent forces that were stationed at Kajiki, Hamanoichi and Kokulu. Kirino with sixteen companies has gone toward Mamihara. It would thus appear that one body of the Satsuma forces are again going to endeavour to force their way into Bungo from Nobeoka, while another will advance from Yoshino to Ichiki, and cutting off the Imperialists from communication with Kagoshima and Okumi, will make another attack against Kumamoto by way of Yabe, Koyama and Otsu.

On the 6th instant about six hundred so-called policemen arrived in Tokio from the

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South. They were said to be wounded and invalided troops, but with the exception of three all were young, hearty, and active men, with no sign of wounds or ill-health. It is impossible to understand why the Government, which seems so hard put to it to find recruits, that it has to force into the field children of fifteen and old men of sixty, should send back young and vigorous men.

The *Rising Sun* says without any positive intelligence of events during the past fortnight, it believes it is correct in saying that the cordon of the Imperial forces in Hiuga is gradually being contracted, and that in a short time the four divisions now steadily advancing towards one point will close in on the remnant of the Satsuma men in that province. The inhabitants of Kagoshima are slowly returning to the remains of the town, with a view of occupying their houses if spared, or of rebuilding or repairing those injured by the recent fire. The coast villages in the Otento Sama Sea are once more settling down to something like their former quiet, the whole of the Government forces having advanced inland. General Kawaji, chief of the police, is reported seriously ill, and will probably have to give up the important command he has so ably held the last four months, and seek quiet and change of scene.

Meanwhile, little or nothing is known to the outside public of the whereabouts of Saigo, Kirino, and the other prominent rebel leaders, other than that they must still be directing operations which would have collapsed long ago unless sustained by the untiring energy and perseverance of the men who not only planned the rising, but notwithstanding the reckless plot they have been working on, have succeeded in influencing so many to adhere for such a length of time to a cause as hopeless as this has appeared of late.

IWASAKI *v.* CAPTAIN COLOMB (H.B.M.S. "AUDACIOUS.")—CENSURING A JURY.

(Japan Gazette.)

This case has been brought to an unexpected termination. On the Court assembling on the 4th inst., His Honour summed up the evidence at considerable length, and at the conclusion gave the Jury a number of questions to consider, and they then retired. After being locked up for three-quarters of an hour the Jury returned, and informed His Honour that they could not agree upon a verdict. His Honour said that he was very sorry this should be the result of a six days' hearing, and expressed his willingness to assist in solving any difficulty the Jury might be labouring under. It seems that the stumbling block was the second question, the substance of which was: "Would the collision have been "prevented had the *Audacious* had two anchors "down between six and eight o'clock?" Four of the Jury were unanimous in their opinion, but one differed from them, on this point. Mr. Dickins asked His Honour to take the verdict of the majority, but this Mr. Ness most strenuously opposed. Finally, the Jury retired again, though they expressed their conviction beforehand that though they should be locked up for a week there was not much probability of their agreeing. At 2.25 p.m. they again returned; and, on His Honour asking if they had agreed on their verdict, the foreman proceeded to read the conclusions they had arrived at relative to the questions submitted by His Honour, in number 23; of which the first five ran as follows:—

1.—Is the plaintiff owner of the *Chiri Maru* mentioned in the pleadings?

2.—If a second anchor had been let go from the *Audacious*, between 6 and 8 o'clock, would that in all probability have prevented the collision?

3.—Ought under all the circumstances such second anchor to have been let go?

4.—If it ought so to have been let go, was the defendant in charge of the *Audacious* at the time when it ought to have been let go?

5.—If steam had been got up on the *Audacious* before she began to drift, would the collision in all probability have been avoided?

The answers to the first five were:—

1st question, yes.
2nd ,, 4 no, 1 yes.
3rd ,, unanswerable.
4th ,, do.
5th ,, 1 yes, 3 no, 1 no answer.

His Honour interrupted the foreman at this stage, and informed the gentlemen of the Jury that he had no wish to hear how many agreed on certain points, and asked if they were unanimous on any point. The foreman replied that the only point upon which thay were unanimous was the question of damages. The question then arose as to whether or not the verdict of the Jury should be taken upon the damages. This was ultimately considered to be impossible; and His Honour announced that the only duty which remained for him to perform was to dismiss the Jury. Before doing so he could not help expressing his regret at the six days' trial being brought to such a termination; and, while he believed the gentlemen of the Jury had performed their duty, he at the same time censured them for preventing certain evidence being brought forward, which they ought not to have refused to hear unless they were agreed as to their verdict.—The Jury were then discharged.

THE AGRA BANK *v.* MACCALL.

(L. & C. Express.)

The award of Mr. J. Thos. Kingdon Kingdon, Q.C., who was appointed Arbitrator in the above case, was issued on the 5th inst. After setting forth the authority of the arbitrator, and other technical facts, the document runs as follows:—

"Whereas it was admitted before me on the said reference that no imputation rests upon the defendant's character for honesty in the service of the plaintiffs, and it was agreed that I should certify this fact in my award, which I certify accordingly, and I also certify my concurrence therein; now I, the said arbitrator, having so taken upon me the said reference as aforesaid, and having heard, received and considered the allegations and evidence made, given and produced before me, by and on behalf of the said parties respectively; do make and publish this my award, in writing, of and concerning the matters so referred to me as aforesaid in manner following: that is to say, I find and award the several issues joined in the said action do stand, but that the claim in the declaration be reduced to the sum of £10,133 12s. 6d., for which last mentioned sum I award and order that the verdict entered for the plaintiffs do stand; and I further award and order that the defendant shall and do pay to the plaintiffs or to their attorney, Mr. John Morris, on demand, the plaintiff's costs of the said reference, to be taxed by the proper officer of the Court, and shall and do bear and pay his own costs of the said reference; and lastly, I award and order that the defendant shall and do pay the costs of this my award, and that if the plaintiffs shall pay the last mentioned costs on taking up this award, then that the defendant shall and do pay the plaintiffs or to their attorney, Mr. John Morris, on demand, the sum which the plaintiffs shall have so paid on account of the said last mentioned costs as last aforesaid. No matters in difference between the said parties other than the matters in difference in the said action were brought before me by or on behalf of either of the said parties respectively; in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 5th day of June, in the year of our Lord 1877.

(Signed) "T. K. KINGDON.

"Signed and published in the presence of F. Bugby, Clerk to the said T. K. Kingdon, 4, Paper-buildings, Temple."

THE "FIND" IN THE LAND OF MIDIAN.

(The Spectator.)

It is now more than six years since, writing about an effort then being made to recover a galleon wrecked off the coast of Venezuela, we pointed out the improbability that the discovery of any great buried treasure would ever again reward an adventurer's daring or discernment. The Kings of the ancient world never had the treasure with which they are credited, or rather, they never had the masses of metal which would now tempt men into serious expeditions. Their treasure, owing to the limited quantities of gold and silver then in the world, would purchase so much, that it loomed large in the world's eyes, but the hoards of the Lydian King, if rediscovered now, would not greatly attract an English millionaire. Solomon whose wealth made such a permanent impression on the imaginations of mankind, for a few years was the merchant-prince of his epoch, and had the carrying trade of the East in his hands, but it may be questioned if his treasure in gold would have outweighed a million in sovereigns, though it may have purchased thirty times or fifty times as much. The lost Spanish galleons often contained the equivalent of £2,500,000—never more, we believe, the Cadiz Treasury being timid about storms, buccaneers, and Netherlandish enemies,—but the actual sum recoverable from any one of them would not now exceed £180,000. There is no record anywhere in the world of the existence of a vast deposit of treasure, unless we can trust—which is not impossible—the persistent Peruvian legend of Atahualpa's mountain storehouse of gold, a temple filled with the plunder of a dynasty and the accumulations of generations of digging and smelting, on which he drew to pay his ransom to Pizarro, or unless—which is conceivable, though unlikely—the barbarians missed the secret of the enormous treasure which must once have been collected under the protection of the Oracle of Delphi, the banking-house of the East, then the richest section of earth. That would be a "find" indeed, and as we said once before, we should like a good, scientific, persevering dig round Delphi and under the old shrine amazingly, and rather wonder some English Schliemann has never made the attempt. We pointed out at the time, however, that with these two exceptions the only chance for a grand "find" now left is the opening up of some mine known to have been profitable, in spite of the unscientific processes employed by the ancient world. Since that time two "finds" of the kind have been made, one of which has been attracting attention this week. We do not know the sums extracted from the scoriæ-heaps piled up at the entrances to the silver mines of Laurium, but they have been considerable enough to attract the attention of all Greece, and to be the foundation of heavy lawsuits, and even of international disputes, and now Captain Burton thinks he has rediscovered the ancient Ophir. That may be doubtful, though Dr. Kitto shows that Solomon's ships which sailed there were launched on the Red Sea, and that Ophir was probably in Edom; and though the country does not produce peacocks now, the early Midianites held the carrying trade between Egypt and Further Asia, and they may have had a central depôt, which in popular phraseology gave its name to everything sold thence, as at present in Asia all European goods are said to be London-made; but the explorer has certainly discovered something. He has gone prospecting about the world a good deal, has a keen eye to business—witness his search for sulphur in Iceland—has a regularly-trained engineer with him, and as usual, has reported only what he has seen. If his account is correct, he has made this time a very considerable discovery. He has visited the "land of Midian," the wild and unpeopled country east of the Wady Arabah, the easternmost of the two fiords which jut into Egypt from the Red Sea, the land where Moses crushed the Midianites, whoever they were, for being idolatrous and pleasure loving—Hellenic and not Hebraistic—and has found it full of the evidence of an ancient civilization, based upon mining operations. There are remains of strong cities, of aqueducts, of smelting-furnaces, and of roads, and evidence of the existence of gold and silver mines, tin mines, and even of turquoise-quarries, the latter more attractive to the mineralogist than to the man of business. Turquoises, like garnets, are not very profitable to those who dig for them, except when found in very unusual pieces; they are very destructible, and if found in considerable quantities, would speedily become almost unsaleable. But it is perfectly possible that very important mines, both of gold and silver, may exist in Midian, and have remained almost untouched by races who knew there was gold there, and found some of it, but were perfectly unable to crush quartz, or sink deep shafts, or pursue any process of extraction by amalgamation. It paid them to work hard for a very little result in weight of metal, one of the facts connected with ancient mining we are all very apt to overlook. There was so little gold or silver in circulation, that a very small bit of either would pay for a week's work, and a treasuryful like that discovered by Dr. Schliemann,

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though it would now melt down to very little money, so impressed the imaginations of men, that the tradition of it descended through the ages. The legend of the riches of Solomon lives for ever, but his bank-balance would not in modern money impress Mr. Kirkman Hodgson very much. It is impossible to read the Bible or the "Iliad," or—centuries after—the books of the middle ages, without seeing how the excessive value of gold as evidence of wealth impressed the imagination of men till, in the early Eastern world, the ornaments of the women were the great rewards of the soldiery after the sacking of a city; and in Europe, so much later, gold was credited with any number of mystical virtues. The early alchemists were hunting for a metal of which a small potful meant wealth for life, and a helmetful a fortune. Mines, therefore, could be worked to a profit, and were worked to a profit for centuries without being exhausted, the only outlay being the food of the slaves employed and the cost of a little firing, and the gains worth possibly the equivalent of £100 an ounce. If there are mines at all in Midian, which seems evident, the ancient workings will not have depleted them seriously, and the Khedive, with his command of forced and convict labour, guided by European science, may have made a really perceptible haul. We rather hope he has, not for his sake, for he is far the inferior of the Ptolemy who preceded him by twenty centuries, but because every sixpence he gets without taxing or borrowing relieves the most oppressed race on the Mediterranean; and because Captain Burton, much as we dislike most of his books and many of his ideas, deserves that some prize of a kind he wishes for should fall to his extraordinary energy and courage. When a man has the nerve and the nous to hunt in a place like Midian, in the most neglected corner of the most sterile of earthly lands, for a new source of wealth to be suddenly acquired, he deserves the reward he seeks, if only for clearing the way for men with higher aims. A Company to work the mines would hardly succeed, free labour in Midian being an unknown quantity and the expenses of carriage indefinite; and the Khedive's request for capitalists' assistance looks like a tentative towards a new loan, on the security of a new Daira, producing turquoises instead of sugar, but still he himself and his own servants may find a treasure there.

If he does, we hope the result will stir up one or two of the adventurous men who are always seeking how to obtain treasure without long and monotonous labour in its acquisition to search in one or two other of the legendary treasure-houses of the world. Jewels, with the exception of diamonds, are hardly worth searching for,—though the supply of rubies would have to be greatly increased before the price would be seriously reduced,—or it might be worth while to prospect the emerald mines of Upper Egypt; but it is hardly to the credit of the Indian Government never to have asked one or two of the experienced mineralogists in its service to go and ascertain for himself what the world-wide legend about Golconda really means. The probabilities are a thousand to one that it is true, that there is such a place, that diamonds of the true water—the "drops of dew" wholly devoid of that abominable yellow tinge which so often spoils the Cape diamonds—were found there, and may be found there again. If a couple of mineralogists lost a year there, the Indian Government would not be ruined, and though we cannot flatter them with great hope of profit, still the Viceroys have often wasted a little money in less profitable work than inquiry into the truth of a very curious legend. Lord Lytton wants a reputation with the natives, and there is an easy one ready to be obtained. The ruler who rediscovered Golconda would never be forgotten, and if the people did fancy for a week that all taxes were to be remitted, that would be at worst a comfortable illusion. Then Mr. Layard is at Constantinople now, and is aware that legends, particularly in Asia, have usually some basis of fact, though they are buried under mountains of fiction. Suppose he induces his friends the Turks, who are not too well off for money at present, just to inquire a little into that story about the golden sands of Pactolus, and those ancient "washings," which would suggest to a Californian that higher up the river would be the precise "lo-cation" for a few quartz-crushing machines. If legend is worth anything—and of self-existent legends the tale is not many—a really valuable gold-mine must exist somewhere on the head-waters of the Pactolus. Of course the Turks cannot do the inquiry for themselves. They have had the richest regions of earth in their possession for five hundred years, and have done nothing with them, but have behaved like robbers who should know of a gold-mine, and think the true way to profit by it was to keep on stealing the buckets; but there must be plenty of Europeans in Constantinople with no fears, few scruples, and plenty of adventure in them, and one of them may have seen life in California, or have acquired some tincture of knowledge of mineralogy.

We have always wondered where the Scandinavian heroes got their gold from, and the priests of Upsala. If they brought it from the South, what did they give for it, having nothing that anybody else wanted; and if they did not buy it, whence was it obtained, for they certainly had it, and in considerable quantities, too? There may be old gold-mines yet to be discovered and reopened in Sweden, and mines of very considerable extent must exist in Japan. When that country was first thrown open to the world gold was in free circulation, and was exchanged weight for weight with silver, a fact which caused for a little while a funny rush upon the Treasury, and which suggests that gold must be obtained somewhere with very unusual ease. It would never occur to miners, under ordinary circumstances, to class the two metals together; first, because the gold takes so much more labour, and secondly, because there is so much less of it. Legislation had of course, something to do with the extraordinary state of things discovered in Japan; but still Nature settles values in some degree independently of legislation, and the known facts point to the existence in Japan of some unusually accessible source of a supply of gold. Whether it would be worth working is another matter. As a rule, except under unusual circumstances, gold-mining is not one of the most paying of trades,—a good lead-mine is ten times as profitable as a gold-mine, and a market-garden near London will return a larger percentage than either of them. But our theme to-day is not profits, but disused mines of the precious metals or stones, and there are certainly five accessible spots where explorers as daring and well informed as Captain Burton might find it pay to look for them.

COREA.

The following extract from a letter from Corea to the *Nichi-nichi Shinbun*, is published in the *Japan Gazette*:—The Coreans are generally unacquainted with and dull in mercantile affairs, and are not particular about the breaking of a contract and are not at all disconcerted at severe scoldings from us for breaches of faith. The Japanese merchants were, till late years, addicted to similar practices, though they did not perpetrate them so frequently as the Coreans. Some persons say that this bad custom was introduced by the islanders of Tsushima. Our tradesmen from Tokio and Osaka are desirous of inducing the natives to give up such pernicious practices. One day, a large native merchant in Torai-fu, which lies 3 *ri* from our settlement in Fusan, broke a contract between him and the Okura Company, and the result was that the former paid a penalty of 50 yen to the latter for his breach of faith. Since that time the natives seem to have become a little more careful in fulfilling their agreements. Owing to the bad harvest last year, the whole country is in a most miserable condition; numbers of cattle are starving in the streets. Our houses in the settlement are forced every night by robbers; and a crowd of beggars proceeds daily through the settlement begging for food and money. When we are landing rice and other things from the harbour, they assemble on the shore and hatoba looking for any chance to steal. The Japanese regard the natives as slaves or dogs. But the Coreans are dressed in the same kind of clothes, and women wear a dress resembling that of Europeans. They are much ashamed to be naked. The islanders of Tsushima, it is rumoured, are considerably in debt to the native merchants. We in Fusan are only allowed to walk about 2½ *ri* out of the settlement. When we go out, we are always surrounded by a crowd of natives, who look upon us with wonder, just the same as the Japanese did on Europeans about 14 or 15 years ago. So we give a certain sum of money to an officer, who walks from one street to the other like our police, requesting him to drive away the noisy crowd. Buildings are constructed very carelessly; and the houses generally are dirty and have an offensive smell.

TIDAL WAVE ON THE SOUTH-AMERICAN COAST.

(Alta California.)

On the 10th of May a tidal wave washed the State of Guerrero, in Mexico, and rose as high as the Plaza at Acapulco. The following particulars of the tidal wave on the South Pacific Coast have been received:—Callao was visited on the morning of the 10th by a species of tidal wave, or rather a gradual upheaval of the sea, which caused serious damage and exceeding alarm. The docks and piers of Muille & Darsena were the principal sufferers, together with some stores along the shore line, which were completely carried away by the water. Vessels made fast and lying alongside the outer walls of the dock were lifted fully eight feet by the upheaval, but not damaged. Most of the steamers riding at anchor in the bay slipped their cables, fearing further danger. The United States storeship *Onward* left for anchorage, the officers in command evidently remembering the fate of her predecessor, the *Tredonia*, in the great tidal wave at Arica in 1868. Quantities of merchandise temporarily stored on the docks, from ships in discharge, were ruined by the water. On shore the greatest consternation was apparent, many families flying for safety to the high grounds back of the town. At 10 o'clock in the morning all danger seemed past. The sea was still somewhat agitated, but gradually resumed its ordinary tranquility. At Mollendo, 300 feet of railway running along the shore was destroyed by the wave. At Ilo, the town and railway were also seriously damaged, although no loss of life was reported. Beyond Mollendo, the cable is interrupted. Much anxiety prevails as to the fate of Arica and Iquique. The steamer *Santa Rosa*, which left Arica on the evening of the 9th, reports that when a few moments under way she experienced a shock of earthquake and saw a tidal wave setting towards shore. At Arequipa a strong shock was felt, but the Prefect telegraphs that no damage was inflicted on the city. From the south there is no further intelligence; yet the fact that the cable is not working leads to the belief that some great calamity may have befallen southern ports. In such case, at the guano deposits of Pabillon de Bica and Guarillos, where from eighty to a hundred ships are loading, the catastrophe must have been immense.

The Panama *Star* has additional intelligence showing the extent of the devastation. The steamer *John Elder* arrived at Callao from Valparaiso on the 13th, and reports that the destructive tidal wave at Callao and ports to the north of there was known to have extended as far south as the northern boundary of Chile, but how much further is not known, as communication by cable has been interrupted. The *Elder* reports the almost complete destruction of Antofagosta, Iquique, Arica, Tambo, Demora, Pabellon, Depice and Ilo. The destruction of life and property was owing entirely to a frightful upheaval and ingress of the sea.

A gentleman arrived by the *Trujello* states that the flourishing town of Iquique, the principal port for the nitrate shipments, is left as complete a ruin now as it was after the frightful earthquake and inundation of 1868. At Arica the sea washed over the town to a height back of the church, and destroyed much valuable property. The wreck of the United States steamer *Waterec*, which was carried inland a couple of miles by the tidal wave of 1868, was again floated and carried a mile or two further up the coast. The lower part of Antofagosta, which is a part of the celebrated Caracoles mining district in Bolivia, is reported completely destroyed. Smelting and other works near shore were all swept away. The shipping at Pabellon and Debica and the guano deposits suffered severely, and some half dozen fine

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vessels are reported ashore, completely wrecked. The sea in some places is stated to have risen over sixty feet. The meagre and unsatisfactory reports render it impossible to form any fair estimate of the result of this terrible visitation; but, making all due allowance for exaggerated statements, we cannot but believe that the loss of life and property has been enormous. We may at any moment receive further particulars by way of Valparaiso and the trans-Atlantic telegraph and the Brazilian cable to Europe. Between six and eight hundred lives are said to have been lost.

[The effects of this great convulsion were felt at Hakodadi at 11.30 a.m., on the 11th May.]

ROAD MAKING IN JAPAN.

(Hiogo News.)

Perhaps not the smallest of the evils for which the present rebellion has to be thanked is the cessation—temporary only, no doubt—of railway construction, more particularly the postponement of the short extension, so much desired, between Kioto and Otsü. It would seem, however, that long before this rebellion broke out and brought that, amongst other consequences, in its train, the authorities of Kioto Fu and Shiga Ken must have decided upon making a really good road from Kioto to the shores of Lake Biwa, for on walking between Kioto and Otsü the other day we found that what used to be, proportionately to the amount of traffic it had to carry, the worst road probably in Japan, had been converted into what we have little doubt is one of the very best. The only road that we have seen of the same quality is the new road to the Ikuno silver mines, and that is only eighteen feet wide throughout, whereas the Otsü road, we should say, is at no point less than that, and is oftener thirty feet, particularly at the Kioto end of it. Enquiries we have since made have elicited that the steepest gradient is now 1 in 30, which has been obtained by making a cutting twelve feet deep where the road used to be the steepest. Six thousand yards of the Kioto end have been made at the sole expense of the Kioto Fu, and have cost about yen 35,000—or rather will have cost that when completely finished, as yen 29,500 have been already spent and there is work yet to be done which will cost about yen 5,000 more. This section has been made principally under the direction of two young men who were educated at the Government expense, one in England and the other in America, and is, as far as we may judge, a fine piece of work. The Otsü section has been done at the expense of the Shiga Ken, but the only special information we have about it is that more clay and less stone has been used in its construction than in that of the other part. It is much the pleasanter travelling of the two at present, as the stones used for macadamising by the Kioto people have been in some instances too large, and we doubt whether those portions of the road will ever present the surface that they ought until they have had another topdressing. We understand that a tax will be levied on all vehicles, to cover expenses. It is quite clear that within the last few years the intelligent men of Japan have fully recognised the enormous advantages, commercially and politically, of good roads over bad ones; and we hope that before long the Ikuno and Otsü enterprises will prove to have been but the first steps in a system which shall gradually embrace the whole Empire.

PROPOSED CHINESE LAUNDRY FOR LONDON.

(Daily Press.)

The report mentioned by our London correspondent in his last communication, to the effect that a Chinese laundry is about to be established in Holland Park, Kensington, is the second or third rumour of Chinese emigration to England which has been set on foot. We have no means of knowing what foundation—if any—exists for this report. Some speculative individual may have conceived the idea, in the hope of establishing a remunerative enterprise in the British metropolis, and no doubt there may appear to some people to be room for such an undertaking. But we should be very sorry to see it started. There are at present thousands of industrious women in London who find it difficult if not impossible to obtain employment, and the introduction of Chinese washermen there would prove the means of interfering with the livelihood of a great many humble but deserving people. Moreover, there is no real need for such an establishment. If the existing laundries are insufficient, it would be an easy matter to start others on a large scale in the suburbs. A Chinese laundry would be no gain to the community. The laundress in London is usually a very provoking person, and is perpetually causing annoyance, but experience has shown that the dhoby in the East, whether in India, Singapore, or China, causes far more exasperation and loss. The European laundress may sometimes deposit some of the linen at the pawnshop instead of carrying it home, and she may return it a wretched colour and in limp condition, but she does not lend it out to be worn. It is seldom, too, that it is sent home covered with smuts and stains, and with large holes torn by pegs, or wrist-bands and fronts of new shirts frayed out by being beaten on granite boulders. The Chinese washerman, to give him his due, is perfectly ruthless in his treatment of the clothes consigned to his care. He is troubled with no compunctions, and is quite indifferent as to the condition in which he sends the clothes home to the owners. Unfortunately this is not all or the worst he does. Chinese washermen have been seen disporting themselves on the hillsides in foreigners' pyjamas, and it is said that they lend out the clothes for wear to needy persons for a trifling consideration. When the clothes finally reach their rightful proprietors, a certain proportion of them are almost sure to be unfit for wear, while they are certain to be minus half their buttons and otherwise the worse, if not for wear, certainly for washing. The Chinese are not good starchers nor are they careful ironers. The clothes they get up will not compare favourably with those washed by a respectable English laundress. Here in Hongkong we have had quite sufficient experience of the Chinese washerman, and the foreign community generally can bear testimony to the fact that he is a great nuisance. An effort has been made to start a steam laundry in the Colony, and such an enterprise is one that strongly recommends itself to the public. But unfortunately it would take some thirty thousand dollars to set it going, and not much more than a fourth of that sum has been subscribed for as yet. The British and foreign community would be only too glad to support such a scheme if once set afloat, though they do not appear to care to invest their money in it. At Singapore a laundry has been started, much to the gratification of the European residents there. The Chinese have acquired a reputation as washermen, owing to their having monopolised that employment at San Francisco for a number of years when Caucasian labour was almost unattainable. But that does not prove them to be peculiarly fitted for the work, and there is no possible pretext for introducing them into a country where the labour market is so overstocked as it is in Great Britain. It is to be hoped that the scheme—if it has really ever had existence—will be abandoned, for it would not fail to excite a good deal of hostility among the working population. The British Isles do not afford a proper field for Chinese emigration, and it would be simple folly on the part of any journal to encourage it thither.

BUSINESS NOMENCLATURE.

(British Trade Journal.)

The Philadelphia *Trade Journal* gives a list of misnomers applied to articles well known in trade, but while professing to set others right it is not uniformly correct in its own statements, as our parenthetical notes will make plain. The journal says, "Why should trade not have a Johnson or a Webster to classify and correct the mass of inconsistencies that go to make up its nomenclature? While we tax our brains to invent 'fantastic' names for every new fabric, varied perhaps only by a thread or a shade from what our grand-parents wore a century ago, there are in use positive misnomers for many staple articles of merchandise. The following imperfect list, culled from sources ready at hand, will give a faint idea of them:"—

Acid (sour), applied in chemistry to a class of bodies to which sourness is only accidental, and by no means a universal characteristic. Thus rock crystal, quartz, flint, &c., are chemical acids, though no particle of acidity belongs to them. *(The substances mentioned are forms of silica, which is not an acid properly so called, but, in chemical language, an anhydride.)*

Black Lead does not contains a single particle of lead, being composed of carbon and iron.

Brazilian Grass does not come from Brazil, or even grow there; nor is it a grass at all. It consists of strips of a palm leaf *(Chamaerops argentea)*, and its imported chiefly from Cuba.

Burgundy Pitch is not pitch, nor is it manufactured in or exported from Burgundy. The best is a resinous substance, prepared from common frankincense and brought from Hamburg; but by far the greater quantity is a mixture of resin and palm oil. *(Burgundy pitch is not a preparation as the above would lead one to infer, but a natural product—the resin of the Norwegian spruce fir, Abies Excelsa.)*

Catgut is not the gut of cats, but of sheep.

China, as a name for porcelain, gives rise to the contradictory expressions, "British China," "Dutch China," "Chelsea China," &c., like "wooden milestones," "iron milestones," "brass shoehorns" "iron pens," "steel pens," &c.

Cuttle Bone is not bone at all, but a structure of pure chalk, once embodied loosely in the substance of certain extinct species of cuttle fish. It is enclosed in a membranous sac within the body of the "fish," and drops out when the sac is opened, but it has no connection whatever with the sac or the cuttle fish. *(This substance has a connection with the cuttle fish, seeing that it is the calcareous plate which strengthens its back. Large quantities come from the Persian Gulf, and the cuttle fish which yields it is by no means extinct.)*

Galvanised Iron is not galvanised. It is simply iron coated with zinc; and is done by dipping it in a zinc bath containing muriatic acid.

German Silver is not silver at all, nor was the metallic alloy called by that name invented by a German, but has been used in China time out of mind.

Honey Soap contains no honey, nor is honey in any way employed in its manufacture. It is a mixture of palm oil soap and olive soap, each one part, with three parts of curd soap, or yellow soap scented.

Japan Lacquer contains no lac at all, but is made from a kind of nut tree called *anacardiaceae.*

Kid Gloves are not made from kid skins, but of lamb or sheep skins. At present many of them are made of rat skins.

Meerschaum is not petrified "sea-foam," as its name implies, but a composition of silica, magnesia and water.

Mosaic Gold has no connection with Moses or the metal gold. It is an alloy of copper zinc, used in the ancient *musivum*, or tesselated work.

Mother of Pearl is the inner layer of several sorts of shells. It is not the mother of pearl, as its name indicates, but in some cases the matrix of the pearl.

Pen means a feather (Latin, *penna*, wing.) A steel pen is not a very choice expression.

Prussian Blue does not come from Prussia, but is the precipitate of the salt of protoxide of iron with red prussiate of potash. *(The yellow prussiate of potash is employed in the manufacture of Prussian blue, not the red.)*

Salad Oil is not oil for salads, but oil for cleaning sallets or salades, *i.e.*, helmets.

Salt is no salt at all, and has long been excluded from the class of bodies denominated "salts." *(In chemistry the term "salt" includes any definite solid chemical substance, but more especially those which assume a crystalline form. Common salt, or chloride of sodium, certainly comes under the category.)*

Sealing Wax is not wax at all, nor does it contain a single particle of wax. It is made of shellac, Venice turpentine and vermillion. Vermillion gives it the deep red colour, and turpentine renders the shellac soft and less brittle.

Sperm Oil properly means "seed oil" (Latin, *sperma*, seed), from the notion that it was *spermaceti* (the sperm or melt of a whale.) The sperm whale is the whale which gives this "seed oil," which is taken chiefly, but not wholly, from the head.

Whalebone is no bone at all, nor does it possess any of the properties of bone. It is a substance attached to the upper jaw of the whale, and serves to strain the water which the creature takes up in large mouthfuls.

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Clippings.

There are two turret-ships in Bombay Harbour for the defence of that important naval and commercial station. There are some excellent eighteen-ton guns on board, which would be more serviceable if there were some marine artillerymen to work them. But that little precaution has been overlooked. Royal Artillery from the Colaba Barracks have to be shipped on practice-days. They do their best, but have not yet succeeded in killing anybody, although they did manage to send a huge projectile whizzing amongst the flotilla of large and small craft moored off the bunders and in the port some three weeks ago.—*The World.*

A remarkable transaction (the *Leeds Mercury* says) has just taken place at Chester. A man and his wife who keep a little provision shop have been blessed with several children, but all have died. Recently the man happened to be in the Black Lion Inn, Boughton, and there met a dissipated-looking woman, with a child extremely like the one they had last buried. Struck with the resemblance, he hurried home to his wife to tell her of the occurrence. They both returned to the inn, and after some questions and bargaining succeeded in getting the woman to part with the child for the sum of 5*s*. The infant was taken by the man and wife, and the woman went on her way, and has not been heard of since.

Some time since a girl, who had been courted by a young man named Taylor, at Wick, emigrated to Australia to better her position, but was induced under a promise of marriage to return home. After considerable delay, Taylor refused to marry her, whereupon she brought an action for breach of promise, obtaining a verdict with £500 damages. Failing to pay this sum Taylor was committed to prison. Last week he petitioned the Sheriff's Court at Wick for an order that the plaintiff should contribute to his maintenance. The application was granted. So that besides paying her own costs and obtaining no remedy, the plaintiff must now pay a weekly sum to keep her perjured lover, or he will be released.—*Home News.*

The Czar is furious against the Imperial Bank of Germany, which has played him a scurvy trick, and against his Minister of Finance, Baron de Reutern, who was not clever enough when stipulating the conditions of the contract for an advance of 75,000,000 roubles by Meudelssohn of Berlin and some Paris bankers. It had been agreed that the loan would be granted at the rate of one per cent. over the official rate of discount of the Imperial Bank of Germany. The negotiations dragged for some time; and after the signature of the provisional agreement, the conditions of which could not be altered, the Bank of Germany raised its rate of discount, a measure which cost 600,000 marks to Russia. The bankers are delighted, and are rubbing their hands; but the Czar is in a terrible rage at having been done.—*The World.*

A story—which it is difficult to credit, yet in which every circumstantial detail of names and dates is given—is afloat in society in Paris. It is said that while the Duke of Edinburgh was at Nice, he took, for some reason which Paris is vainly seeking, a French officer of high rank into his confidence, unburdened himself to him of complaints as to the manner in which the Duchess had been received in England, related how she had been interfered with in the organisation of her very household, and said it was impossible for her to stay in England while England is so mad over the Russian scare; and added, 'For my part I cannot tell you how ashamed I was of being an Englishman whilst I was in Besika Bay, every day obliged *avaler mille couleuvres.*' —*Idem.*

The *Straits Times* says with reference to Reuter's telegram about Sir William Jervois and South Australia, the probability is that there is not the slightest foundation for the rumour. South Australia would be no promotion to His Excellency from the Straits, so far as salary is concerned, and other considerations make it in the highest degree improbable that he should accept the appointment, if offered him. We think we can trace the rumour. Upon the arrival of Sir William Jervois in Australia, a positive statement appeared in a Queensland paper almost exactly in the words of Reuter's telegram; it was copied into the papers of New South Wales, Victoria, South and West Australia, and now seems to have been telegraphed home, and Reuter has fallen into the trap.

The amenities of ballrooms are unaccountable. At the last ball given at the Dublin Castle, a good-looking man and a pretty girl were introduced to each other. "Will you dance?" said he. "Charmed," said she. But she found that he gave himself such intolerable airs as utterly to deprive her of the enjoyment of the dance. Much disgusted, the lady adopted every possible form of snubbing, but without success. At last a brilliant thought struck her, and, as one of Strauss's delicious valses was played, and her partner was already gyrating with his arm round her waist, she whistled a loud accompaniment to the music. The horrified individual could scarcely believe his ears. "Are you aware with whom you are dancing?" said he. "Oh, yes," said she; "with one of the Lord Lieutenant's men." And after this they became great friends!—*Truth.*

The *Straits Times* is informed on good authority, that the Tanjong Pagar Dock has had rather a narrow escape from another serious fire, under the following circumstances:—The steamer *Bromo* had been docked, and when high and dry, the bilge cocks were opened to let out the water. More, however, seems to have been let out than dirty water, for a piece of burning dammar falling from a torch in the hands of a coolie or carpenter, set the water all round the steamer ablaze, and, for some time, the steamer was in great danger. The fire was extinguished with some difficulty by sand being thrown upon it under the directions of Mr. Miller, superintending engineer. The *Bromo*, it appears, brought here a quantity of kerosine oil, and the cases and tins being in bad order, the oil leaked into the bilge water and with the water into the dock. Hence the fire, which, happily, was mastered before any great damage was done.

The *Economist* quotes from a contemporary a table compiled from official statistics of the loss of life in the various wars of the last twenty-five years. The total number of persons killed in battle, or died of wounds and disease is estimated at 1,948,000. The cost of the wars in which this loss of life occurred is estimated at £2,413,000,000. The loss of life (the *Economist* says) is equal to about half the population of the whole metropolitan area. The 2,413 millions sterling of capital is equal to about eight or ten years' revenue of all the Governments of Europe and North America. But a public revenue is applied in the payment of services, and the promotion of public works which are to a large extent useful. The 2,413 millions of money destroyed in war have been absolutely annihilated. Further, the fortresses, ships, artillery, &c., destroyed by war, have to be replaced by capital taken, over a series of years, from productive purposes.

It may be of interest, in the present state of affairs in the East, to notice the strength of our Mediterranean fleet. The particulars are as follow:—

	Guns.	Tons.	Horse power.
Alexandra, double screw ship	12	9400	8000
Devastation, turret ship	4	9188	5600
Hotspur, iron plated ram	3	4010	3407
Monarch, turret ship	7	8322	7842
Pallas, armour-plated corvette	8	3787	3551
Research, armour-plated sloop	4	1741	1049
Rupert, iron-clad ram	4	5284	4200
Sultan, iron screw ship	12	9286	8629
Swiftsure, iron screw ship	14	6633	4913
Torch, screw gun vessel	5	570	281
Antelope, iron paddle vessel	3	1010	646
Bittern, double screw gun vessel	3	774	851
Cruiser, sloop	4	752	—
Helican, despatch vessel	2	945	1610
Raleigh, iron screw frigate	22	4780	5639
Rapid, screw sloop	3	913	460

Probably this is the most powerful fleet ever assembled in any waters, and it is most likely that the *Thunderer*, which will be ready for sea in a few days, will be sent to reinforce it. If only our ironclads can avoid ramming each other, we need not fear that British interests will suffer, as no navy in the world could detach such a squadron for service in the Mediterranean.—*Echo.*—[It appears that four other ironclads have since been sent to reinforce this fleet.]

It is a curious thing to find a wreck due, not to the ship striking a rock, but to a rock striking the ship, yet this is what seems to have happened in the case of the iron screw steamer *Knight Templar*, which, on February 23rd, off the Gulf of Tunis, seems to have been struck by a rock from a submarine volcano, while in 1,000 fathoms of water at a distance of ten miles from the nearest known group of rocks. The shock was accompanied by a rumbling noise and by a seething of the sea into white foam all round the ship, and though the ship was not stopped in her course, she soon began to fill, and had to be steered to the island of Galita, where the captain ran her on shore in a shallow place, which he accomplished within four hours of the submarine shock. When examined by divers, and subsequently in dock in Malta, it appeared that at a distance of about fifteen feet from the stem of the vessel some nine or ten feet had been torn out of her by something which crossed her course at right angles, and the ship had also been struck in a similar way on the after-part from the same direction, and a good part of her keel twisted. Mr. William Coppin, ex-surveyor to the Board of Trade, who gives us this account at length in Monday's *Times*, is evidently quite satisfied that a rock driven through the sea by a submarine volcano had struck and wrecked the ship. It is hard for the sailors that at the very time when man is contriving such frightful torpedoes for their destruction, the earth herself should begin exploding natural torpedoes upon them, without even the warning of a declaration of war.—*Spectator.*

The most recent report by Mr. C. V. Riley on the insects of the State of Missouri contains new and rather alarming news of that uncommonly formidable little emigrant, the Colorado beetle, whose qualities as an invader Sir Wilfred Lawson not long ago described as so much more dangerous than those of Count von Moltke's troops. And really Mr. Riley's account of the extreme ease with which this little creature adapts himself to new conditions, especially in the temperate zone, is very threatening to European friends of the potato. It cannot thrive, it seems, where the thermometer ranges near 100° Fahrenheit, but in temperate regions it thrives admirably, and even takes to other food than the potato, where the potato is deficient. It has migrated 1,500 miles to the eastward of its first habitat in less than twenty years, and if it manages to cross the Atlantic, it will certainly take to English life in the kindliest way. Mr. Riley thinks it quite an Anglo-Saxon among beetles, in its power of cutting itself loose from its old home, and finding a new home under new conditions. It can sleep for a month or two without injury, and it alters its physical conformation with the new food and new climate it finds. Two other American beetles have already acclimatised themselves in Europe, but no American beetle has shown such powers of adapting itself to a "new environment" as the Colorado. Perhaps, after all, it will be some beetle which will eventually defeat man in the conflict for existence, and become the chief inhabitant of this little planet.—*Idem.*

The author of "Flemish Interiors" writes to *The Times* as follows, under date 25th May:—"I observe you quote a paragraph from the *Athenæum* to the effect that the authorities of the British Museum are purposing to add to our National Library a rare, curious, and voluminous Chinese Encyclopædia, now offered for sale at Peking. It may interest bibliophiles to learn that there has long been in the *Bibliotheque (Royale? Imperiale?) Nationale* of Paris a Chinese Encyclopædia in fifty vols., 4to., entitled the 'Kou-kin-i-tong,' dating from a period answering to 220 of the Christian era. I may mention that among a vast number of very early discoveries practically in use by that ingenious people, but forgotten and discovered again in our own day under the fallacious idea that they are 'new' (as if there were anything new under the sun), is the employment of anæsthetics, at that time, and probably much earlier, in

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common use in surgery there, a Chinese physician, who flourished under the dynasty of Wei, by name Hao-Tho, being in the habit of administering a preparation of 'Ma-yo,' *alias* 'cannabis Indica,' or the hemp of the country, to his patients; when after a few minutes they became as if dead, and remained insensible to any amount of punctures, probings, incisions, amputations, &c. It is, therefore, probable that should England become possessed of the work in question, and should our Oriental philologists live long enough to translate it, we shall stumble prematurely upon some of those results of a refined civilisation to which the ordinary course of progress would only bring us after the lapse of many centuries."

The Dulwich correspondent of the *Echo*, writes respecting the murder of Mrs. Harriet Staunton, at Penge,—"A very extraordinary discovery has just been made in the house of Patrick Staunton, at Cudham. For some time the police have been endeavouring to ascertain in which room the deceased, Harriet Staunton, had been allowed to get into such an emaciated condition. Considering her filthy state, it has not been deemed likely that she would have been allowed to occupy one of the only two bed rooms in the house. There is a large stable about 100 yards from the house, and that has been examined, but no trace of anyone having been shut up there has been discovered. There has been a rumour that there was a cellar formerly in the house before it was altered, but up till to-day no entry to such a place could be found. The police, however, to-day, while the Government surveyor was making a plan of the whole place, took up the carpets, and in so doing, in the centre of one of the sitting rooms they discovered a secret trap door, very neatly let in the floor. On lifting it up there was a wide flight of steps, which, on going down, led into a semi-dark, damp cellar, which, with its iron bars at a small window, partly covered with perforated zinc, had all the appearance of a loathsome secret dungeon. In the middle of the floor were a few old faggots, and along one side of the wall some hay litter. As there was no candle in the house, and no light to be obtained, the further examination of the place was deferred."—The above reads like an imaginery incident in one of Mrs. Radcliffe's novels, rather than an account of an actual occurrence of the present day.

The *L. & C. Express* says the Chinese Envoys accompanied by the Chinese Secretary of Legation and Dr. Macartney, were present at the Derby, and they have also visited the ships' models at the Fishmongers' Hall. They expressed themselves especially interested in the models of the Indian and Australian steamers. The subordinate members of the Embassy also appear to take great interest in our public institutions, and are frequently seen at the British Museum and other like places. A few days back one of them caused some amusement by the curiosity he displayed with regard to one of the Egyptian sarcophagi, to inspect which fully he hauled himself up with his arms till he could obtain a convenient point of view. The mummies are also much admired by the Chinese, but it is difficult to bring them to believe fully in their antiquity.

The Envoys have also visited Westminster Abbey, being shown round the building by Dean Stanley. It was explained to them that it was the burial place of the English Kings, celebrated statesmen and literary-men, similar in this respect to the "Hwang-Ling," and "Chên-Ling" in China—the former the burial places of Emperors, and the latter of literary celebrities. They were struck by the fact of the oldest of the building being 800 years of age, and of the English Parliament having as much as 600 years ago met in the building.—The First Minister, Kuo, was present at the State dinner given by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs on the 2nd June; and he afterwards attended the reception of the Marquis of Hertford, the Lord Chamberlain. On the 5th June the Envoys visited the American Minister and met General Grant; on the 6th they were present at the Duchess of Argyll's garden party, and on the 7th they were present, as is required by official etiquette, at the levée held on behalf of Her Majesty by the Prince of Wales.

The Toronto correspondent of the *Times* writes that—"The Militia Department at Ottawa has been inundated with offers for Imperial service. Up to the present moment these offers represent an aggregate of over 10,000 men, although the movement has not yet extended beyond a few of the best-trained Militia corps in the different Provinces. Probably the only tender of service which has been officially forwarded to England is that originating with the officers commanding corps in Ontario. These offer to raise a contingent of 4,500 or 5,000 strong, to consist of two field batteries of Artillery, one corps of Engineers, and four battalions of Rifles. Such a force would be valuable if only to relieve the forces now garrisoning Halifax, Bermuda, and the West Indies. The offers of service which come from the Province of Quebec and the Maritime Provinces have not been cast in regulation form; so the Militia Department has simply furnished directions how such applications must be made before the offer can be officially forwarded to the Imperial authorities. The class of men who would compose the Canadian Contingent would be largely drawn from the ranks of the existing Militia force, or those who had passed through the Militia. The Military schools throughout the Dominion have produced an intelligent and well-trained class of non-commissioned officers, and the officers could be selected from those who had taken certificates and had served for a length of time in the Militia. A valuable Artillery Contingent could be furnished among the men who have passed through the course of instruction at the Dominion Schools of Gunnery—the curriculum being, if anything, superior to that laid down for the 'Short Course' of Militia and Volunteer Artillery officers at Shoeburyness. There are some 2,000 trained men of this class who would be fully competent for service in field batteries or garrison artillery. It will be remembered that during the Crimean War offers were made to raise a regiment or two in (Old) Canada, but it was not till after its close that a Canadian regiment was enrolled."

Advertisement.

THE

NORTH-CHINA INSURANCE CO.

Subscribed Capital—*Taels Two Million, in 1,000 shares of Taels 2,000 each.*

Paid-up Capital—*Taels Six Hundred Thousand, or Taels 600 per share.*

Provisional Committee.

F. H. Bell Esq. (Messrs. Adamson, Bell & Co.)
M. S. Gubbay, Esq. (Messrs. David Sassoon, Sons & Co.)
James Hart, Esq. (Messrs. Turner & Co.)
E. H. Lavers, Esq. (Messrs. Gilman & Co.)
Hugh Sutherland, Esq. (Messrs. John Forster & Co.)
A. G. Wood, Esq. (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co.)

Head Office—Shanghai.

Secretary—Herbert S. Morris, Esq.

Bankers.

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Branches.

London (25, Cornhill, E.C.), Hongkong, Yokohama.

Agencies.

At the principal ports in the East and Australian Colonies.

THE Company will be constituted on the 1st January, 1878, as a permanent Marine Insurance Company, to carry on the business (established in 1863) of the North-China Insurance Company, 1875-1877.

A Reserve Fund will be formed of Taels 400,000, by setting aside a portion of the profits at such times and in such sums as the Shareholders shall decide.

The net profits of the Company for each year will be divided amongst the Shareholders, in the following manner:—

One-third over the Shares, a portion thereof being set aside for the formation of a Reserve Fund as above stated.

Two-thirds as a return to Contributors (being Shareholders), in proportion to the Premia paid or influenced by them.

A revision of the Share List will take place at the end of every three years, and for this purpose power will be given to the Directors by the Deed of Settlement to withdraw at the before-mentioned periods all or any of the Shares held by Shareholders who have not contributed Premia or whose contributions during the preceding three years have not been in proportion to the number of Shares held.

Shareholders retiring from the Company in pursuance of the above regulation, will be notified at least three months prior to the date fixed for any such revision of the Share List, and will have the option of disposing of their Shares in either of the following ways:—

They will be at liberty at any time after receipt of notice of withdrawal, and prior to the date of revision, to sell their Shares to any person approved by the Company and accepted as the transferee;

or

Upon surrendering their scrip certificate for cancellation at the time of such revision, and pursuant to notice, will receive a return of the Capital paid up thereon; and so soon after as the financial position of the Company up to the date of the revision can be ascertained and the accounts adjusted, they shall also receive a pro rata share of the Reserve Fund, if any accumulated, together with such proportion of the unappropriated profits as may be found due to them.

Notice is hereby given, that Applications for Shares in the undermentioned form will be received at the offices of the Company, from residents in China and Japan, until the 30th September; from London and distant ports until 31st October next.

Form of application for Shares.

To the Provisional Committee of the North-China Insurance Company.

Gentlemen,

..... hereby request that you will allot to ..... Shares in the above Company, and.....agree to accept such Shares, or any less number you may allot to.....; and..... agree to pay the first call of Tls. 600 per Share, and all subsequent calls, and to subscribe the Deed of Settlement when required to do so.

Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
.....

Forms of application for Shares can be obtained at the Head-office, or by application to the Agents of the Company.

30se 3285 Shanghai, 18th June, 1877.

PRICE OF THE *NORTH-CHINA HERALD and S. C. & C. GAZETTE.*—Per Annum, Taels 12; Six Months, Taels 6.50. Three Months, 3.50—*all payable in advance.* Credit price, Tls. 13.15 per Annum; Subscriptions will be considered as renewed unless notice to the contrary be given before the expiry of the current term.

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EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS,—SEASON 1877-8.

TO GREAT BRITAIN, &c.

VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Gleneagles ..... s.s.	May 23	London	20,510.89	.....	20,510.89
Loudoun Castle ,,	... 23	,,	19,007.02	.....	19,007.02
Glenartney..... ,,	... 25	,,	17,003.75	.....	17,003.75
Tartar .... ,,	... 25	,,	15,648.20	.....	15,648.20
Braemar Castle ,,	... 29	,,	18,229.78	.....	18,229.78
Glenlyon..... ,,	June 1	,,	17,500.68	.....	17,500.68
J. R. Worcester s.v.	... 1	,,	8,717.53	.....	8,717.53
Ava ..... s.s.	... 2	,,	1,006.16	.....	1,006.16
,, ... ,,	... 2	Trieste	5.21	.....	5.21
Radnorshire. ... ,,	... 4	London	15,475.97	.....	15,475.97
Cutty Sark..... s.v.	... 6	,,	10,001.20	.....	10,001.20
Stad Amsterdam s.s.	... 6	,,	17,336.22	.....	17,336.22
Hankow ..... ,,	... 7	,,	27,061.81	.....	27,061.81
Kashgar ..... ,,	... 9	,,	3,698.72	.....	3,698.72
,, ... ,,	... 9	Bombay	.....	30.19	30.19
Priam..... ,,	... 9	London	10,532.17	.....	10,532.17
Menzaleh ..... ,,	... 14	,,	6,720.47	.....	6,720.47
Cairnsmuir..... ,,	... 11	,,	14,593.56	.....	14,593.56
Amazone..... ,,	... 16	,,	2,124 00	.....	2,124.00
Amazone..... ,,	... 16	Bombay	34 74	48.29	83.03
Diomed ..... ,,	... 19	London	10,765.70	65.65	10,831.35
Vesta ..... ,,	... 18	Nicolajefsk	2,172.13	.....	2,172.13
Windhover..... s.v.	... 23	London	8,365.04	.....	8,365.04

TO GREAT BRITAIN, &c.—*Continued.*

VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Oceanic ..... s.v.	Jun. 23	Nicolajefsk	1,549.99	.....	1,549.99
Teheran ..... s.s.	... 23	London	4,505.42	1,208.29	5,713.71
,, ... ,,	... 23	Bombay	22.82	10.90	33.72
,, ... ,,	... 23	Hongkong	13.77	.....	13.77
Gordon Castle.. ,,	... 23	London	16,014.57	441.54	16,456.11
Glengyle ..... ,,	... 25	,,	13,183.09	122.38	13,305.47
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 30	,,	7,376.42	327.96	7,704.38
Hoogly ..... ,,	July 1	Marseilles	20.27	.....	20.27
,, ... ,,	... 1	Lyons	8.70	.....	8.70
,, ... ,,	... 1	London	2,182.10	262.75	2,444.85
Thermopylæ ... s.v.	... 6	,,	7,508.71	.....	7,508 71
Cathay..... s.s.	... 7	,,	5,136.39	1,135.14	6,271.53
,, ... ,,	... 7	Bombay	6.67	.....	6.67
Anadyr ..... ,,	... 14	Marseilles	7.81	.....	7.81
,, ... ,,	... 14	London	2,476.54	381.93	2,858.47
Achilles ..... ,,	... 14	,,	5,870.29	653.88	6,524.17
,, ... ,,	... 14	Suez	1.00	.....	1.00
,, ... ,,	... 14	Singapore	2.76	... ..	2.76
,, ... ,,	... 14	Hongkong	2.80	.....	2.80
Altona..... ,,	... 14	London	13,354.12	.....	13,354.12
			.....	.....	.....
			325,759.19	4,688.90	330,448.09

EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS.—SEASON 1877-8.

TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS AND AMERICA.

VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Priam ..... s.s.	June 9	New York	387.40	14.32	401.72
Diomed ..... ,,	... 19	,,	458.86	.....	458.86
Nagoya Maru... ,,	... 19	,,	2,272.62	420.29	2,692.91
,, ... ,,	... 19	Nagasaki	3.86	.....	3.86
Tokio Maru ... ,,	... 29	New York	538.39	2,193.05	2,731.44
,, ... ,,	... 29	Nagasaki	17.52	.....	17.52

TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS AND AMERICA.—*Continued.*

VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Tokio Maru ... s.s.	Jun. 29	Hiogo	1.40	.....	1.40
Menelaus ... ... ,,	... 30	New York	451.74	719.22	1,170.96
Hiroshima Maru ,,	July 10	Yokohama	17.01	.....	17.01
Dragon ..... ,,	... 14	W'diostock	97.35	.....	97.35
			4,246.15	3,346.88	7,593.03

SHANGHAI SILK AND OPIUM RETURNS, FOR SEASON COMMENCING JUNE 1, 1877.

FROM IMPERIAL MARITIME CUSTOMS.

SILK.

	TO GREAT BRITAIN.	TO MARSEILLES AND CONTINENT.	TO AMERICA.	TO HONGKONG, COAST PORTS, &c.	TOTAL CHINA.	JAPAN TRANSSHIPPED.	GRAND TOTAL.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Total as per last Report	321	79	57	109	566	..	566
Subsequent Shipments	150	95	..	..	245	..	245
Total....	471	174	57	109	811	..	811

OPIUM.

RETURN FOR WEEK ENDED 14TH JULY, 1877.

IMPORTED	MALWA.		PATNA.		BENARES.		PERSIAN.	
	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight
Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels	917½	917.50	275	330.00	125	150.00	..	..
Imported and transhipped for re-exportation without being stored on board Receiving Vessels or landed	2	2.00	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total.....	919½	919.50	275	330.00	125	150.00	..	..
Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption	29	29.00	133	159.60	53	63.60	..	..
Landed direct	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Description.	Chinkiang.		Kiukiang.		Hankow.		Chefoo.		Tientsin.		Newchwang.		Ningpo.		Foochow.		Wuhu.		Total.	
RE-EXPORTED.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.
Malwa.....	160	160.00	64	64.00	50	50.00	14	14.00	38	38.00	3	3.00	105½	105.50	2	2.00	32	32.00	468½	468.50
Patna.....	7	8.40	..	..	3	3.60	5	6.00	2	2.40	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17	20.40
Benares	10	12.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	12.00
Persian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total.....	177	180.40	64	64.00	53	53.60	19	20.00	40	40.40	3	3.00	105½	105.50	2	2.00	32	32.00	495½	500.90

COTTON.

	HONGKONG, &c.			COAST & RIVERINE PORTS.			JAPAN.			TOTAL.
	Export.	Re-export.	Trans-shipped.	Export.	Re-export.	Trans-shipped.	Export.	Re-export.	Tran shipped.	Piculs.
	Piculs.			Piculs.			Piculs.			Piculs
Total as per last Report.	47,370.83	..	..	333,524.08	..	..	36,568.16	..	..	419,463.07
Subsequent Shipments	1,139.80	..	..	2,130.40	..	..	..	..	..	1,270.20
Total.....	48,510.63	..	..	335,654.48	..	..	36,568.16	..	..	420,733.27

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 20th JULY, 1877.

Arrivals.—The P. & O. steamer *Mirzapore*, with the London mails of 8th June, and the steamers *Glenfalloch* from London, and *Atalanta* from Hamburg.

PIECE GOODS.—Importers, as a body, have been inclined to draw encouragement and hope from the doings recorded on the market this week, and have been puzzling their minds as to whether a revival were impending, and whether prices were to go up or down. Nor have their speculations been altogether baseless. The progress of the Woollen trade has unquestionably indicated a strengthening tendency, and there have been transactions in Plain Cottons—published and rumoured—by the which any one, be he ever so indifferent as to the course of the market, might have hitched on to the same train of cogetations, and been warranted in doing so. The daily settlements (exclusive of auction sales), as laid before the public, have aggregated about 60,000 pieces of *Grey Shirtings* (mostly 8¼-lbs.); 7,000 pieces *White Shirtings*, 64 and 72-reeds; 25,000 pieces 6 and 7-lb. *T-Cloths*; 5,000 pieces of English *Drills*; 600 pieces of English *Sheetings*; 4,000 pieces of Assorted *Chintzes*; 15,000 doz. of 28 and 32 in. Blue *Handkerchiefs*; 500 pieces of *Gentian Shirtings*; 1,200 pieces of Imitation *Cashmeres*; 800 pieces of *Camlets*; 4,000 pieces of *Long Ells*; 400 pieces of *Spanish Stripes*, and a few *Figured Orleans*; and the character of the business has been somewhat as follows:—

Grey Shirtings,—6 and 7.lbs., neglected. 10-lbs.—Small sales of common, at a slight improvement,—say Tls. 1.97½ as against Tls. 1.95½ per piece. 8¼-lbs.—Best and good makes, moderate activity, for the Szechuen, Chinkiang, and Chefoo markets. Dewhurst's Eagle, Tls. 1.88 per piece; *Red Stag* and *Red Joss* chops, Tls. 1.70 per piece; *Gold Eagle*, Tls. 1.78½ per piece; and other brands of less importance Tls. 1.65 *a* 1.45 per piece. The Chinkiang demand has been difficult to suit. Buyers have wanted good cloth at cheap rates, but, owing to the universal prevalence of *Mildew* in the coveted class, there have been few contracts carried out. The Chefoo taste seems to be changing. Dealers now ask for standard medium to good qualities instead of the "ordinaries" of other days, and the C.P.H. *Red Lion* is their favorite at the moment. Orders for that import came down last Sunday, and hence the advance obtained at Monday's auction.

White Shirtings—Quiet, but apparently steady. *Tae-Ping Eagle*, 64-reed, is still saleable at Tls. 2.10 per piece, and approved 72-count is quoted from Tls. 2.25 *a* 2.35 per piece.

T-Cloths.—The market has been lifeless, and quotations for almost every weight and kind are weak. The small business recorded shews a little more enquiry for common 6 and 7-lbs. with lower rates, (viz., Tl. 0.90 per piece for Dewhurst's T. *Eagle* 6lbs., and Tl. 0.91 *a* 0.95 for ordinary 7-lbs.;) but a waning interest in Mexican 7-lbs. with a similar result, excepting only where some speciality has enabled sellers to command former values. Currencies—Dewhurst's *Chop Dollar* Tls. 1.49 per piece; *Gold Dragon*, Tls. 1.42½ per piece. Mendel's *Hand and Branch*, Tls. 1.38½, and *Horse and Jockey* Tls. 1.24 per piece.

Drills,—*English*—declining in favor and in price. *American*—none here—wanted for Chefoo; and *Dutch* asked for at lower rates.

Jeans.—Little doing at private sources. The auction particulars below, are the only guides to the market at present.

Sheetings.—A few good 14-lbs. English sold at Tls. 2.42½ per piece. Trade requirements, however, are only trifling. Of American *Sheetings*, proper, there are none in stock, but 2,750 pieces *Continentals*—12-lbs.—appear in the market book at Tls. 2.60 per piece.

Fancy Cottons.—Assorted *Chintzes*—good flowers, &c., sold on the spot and to arrive at Tls. 1.40 per piece. *Handkerchiefs*—An improved market,—current rates now being Tl. 0.48½ *a* 0.50 per dozen for 28 inch, and Tls. 0.60 per dozen for 32 inch. *Gentian Shirtings* worth from Tls. 1.90 *a* 2.10 per piece; and *Cashmeres* Tls. 3.50 *a* 4.10 per piece of 56 yards, but wants easily satisfied. *Velvets.*—At auction higher rates have ruled. *Turkey Reds* on the other hand have receded in value, and the difficulty of selling them is not lessening.

Woollens.—*Camlets* are 1 mace to 1½ mace per piece dearer. *Long Ells* are also higher by about 1 mace per piece than they were on this day week. The article has been in fairly active request, but there seems to be a lull in the market again, and quotations are a shade easier at the close. *Spanish Stripes* have likewise improved about 1 *a* 2%, and seem advancing at the close. The *Plain Lustres* sold at Auction do not speak favourably for this fabric, but *Figured Orleans* of good quality, assortment, and patterns, are marketable in small lots at Tls. 3.20 *a* 3.35 per piece. For *Lastings* there is exceedingly little request, and rates for the ordinary importations are wholly nominal.

The Locust plague has broken out in Chihli, but the northern dealers, looking from a commercial point, have thus far looked upon the scourge as unimportant.

Below will be found the Returns of Stocks of Imports in foreign possession on 30th ultimo, as collected by the Chamber of Commerce. We, however, continue to base stocks on the Chamber's Returns of January last, and will do so until next December, hoping in the meanwhile that the natives will have worked off the supplies they still hold—(ex their speculative settlements of last autumn)—and that the one non-returning foreign firm referred to in the present returns, will then consent to throw its lot in with the general body.

By request, we shall hereafter give the statistics of *American* Cotton goods a separate place in our table, instead of as heretofore, classing them with *English* manufactures.

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, Retail prices ....per piece...Tls.	13.4.0	12.4.0	12.8.5	11.7.5	13.4.0	...	...	12.8.0	12.4.0	...
Long Ells, ,, ... ,, ... ,,	6.6.7	6.9.5	6.7.0	6.9.0	7.1.0	...	...	7.5.0	7.1.0	...
Spanish Stripes, ,, ...per yard ... ,,	0.5.2½	0.5.2	0.5.1½	0.5.7	0.5.6	0.5.8	0.5.6	0.5.9	0.5.6	0.5.0

Kin-Ming, Auction 17th instant.	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White	Purple.	Black.	Brown	Mauve.	Lt. Gt.	Sales.
													Pcs.
Camlets C.P.H. p. pce. T	13.37½/40	12.40/37½	12.85/87½	11.82½/75	......	...	...	12.80	12.55/40	......	......	13.32½/40	830
Long Ells ,, ,, ,,	6.70/6.67	7.00/6.97	6.70	7.94/7.91	7.10	...	...	7.54	7.13	......	......	...	720
Lasting Lion ,, ,,	......	......	11.22½	......	......	...	...	......	11.47½/50	......	......	...	} 160
,, Elephant ,, ,,	......	......	11.00	.....	......	...	...	......	10.37½	......	......	...	
Sp. St. C.P.H. p. yd. ,,	......	......	......	......	......	...	...	......	......	......	......	...	...
Yuen-Fong, 19th inst.													
Camlets S.S.G. p. pce. T	12.82½	11.60/62½	12.75/72½	11.77½	13.15/12½	...	...	12.77½/72½	12.00/02½	......	12.27½	...	600
Sp. Stripes T.T.B. p. yd. ,,	0.55½/55¾	0.57	0.53¼/53½	0.58	0.56	0.60	0.58	0.61	0.57	......	......	...	216
Miscellaneous.													
Camlets Lion p. pce. T	12.50/52½	11.25	12.42½	......	12.85	...	...	......	11.77½	......	......	12.85	130
Sp. St. Two Wing p. yd. ,,	......	......	......	......	......	...	...	......	......	......	......	...	...

Auction Sales of Cotton Goods—

"*Fuh-Sing.*"—16th instant—

Grey Shirtings—8¼-lbs., 5,000 pieces, at Tls. 1.39½ *a* 1.40¾ for C.P.H. *Green Lion*, Tls. 1.45½ *a* 1.46½ for *Blue Lion*, Tls. 1.61½ *a* 1.63¾ for *Red Lion*; 6-lbs. *Red Pheasant*, 500 pieces, at Tls. 1.07½ per piece, and 7-lbs. *Red Pheasant*, 500 pieces, at Tls. 1.21½ per piece, 9-lbs. *Dewhurst's Eagle*, 1,250 pieces, at Tls. 1.86 *a* 1.86¼ per piece (with all faults.) T-Cloths—6-lbs. *Red Pheasant*, 500 pieces, at Tl. 0.84¼ per piece, and 7-lbs. *Dewhurst's Eagle* T, 500 pieces, at Tls. 1.04½ *a* 1.04¼ per piece. Jeans—8-lbs. *Green Peacock*, 500 pieces, at Tls. 1.31¼ *a* 1.31¾ per piece. Gentian Shirtings—250 pieces, at Tls. 1.94½ per piece. Yarn—5 bales *Red Pheasant*, No. 28, at Tls. 74.25 *a* 74.50 per bale.

"*Van Loong.*"—

Grey Shirtings—6-lbs. *Lie Eagle*, 500 pieces, at Tl. 0.99 per piece. T-Cloths—7-lbs., 1,850 pieces, at Tls. 1.18 *a* 1.18¼ for *Two Cash*, Tls. 1.08½ for *Butterfly*. Drills—14-lbs. *Dragon*, 1,800 pieces, at Tls. 1.77½ for *Best*, Tls. 1.71¼ *a* 1.72 for *Common*. Jeans—8-lbs., 1,250 pieces, at Tls. 1.33¾ for *Peacock*, Tls. 1.29 for *Lion*. Velvets—22-inch Black *Lie Woman*, 300 pieces, at Tl. 0.15.7¾ per yard.

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"*Kin Ming.*"—17th instant—

GREY SHIRTINGS—8¼-lbs., 4,100 pieces, at Tls. 1.64¾ for *Golden Lion*, Tls. 1.64 *a* 1.63½ for *Red Lion*; 7-lbs. *Green Peacock*, 1,000 pieces, at Tls. 1.00½ *a* 1.01½ per piece; 9¾-lbs. *Red Peacock*, 500 pieces, at Tls. 1.82⅝ *a* 1.84¼ per piece. T-CLOTHS—7-lbs., 6,150 pieces, at Tls. 1.06¾ for *Green Ram*, Tls. 1.16 *a* 1.16½ for *Blue Ram*, Tls. 1.25¼ for *Red Ram*, Tls. 1.33 for *Rising Sun.* JEANS—8-lbs. *Green Peacock*, 1,000 pieces, at Tls. 1.30¼ per piece. HANDKERCHIEFS—28-inch, 700 dozen, at Tl. 0.47½ *a* 0.47¼ per dozen.

"*Yuen Fong.*"—19th instant—

DRILLS—14-lbs. *Peacock*, 1,320 pieces, at Tls. 1.76 *a* 1.76¼ per piece.

MISCELLANEOUS—

GREY SHIRTINGS—8¼-lbs. *Three Legs of Man* (with all faults), 1,500 pieces, at Tls. 1.66 *a* 1.69¾ per piece, 10-lbs. *Red Dragon*, 550 pieces, at Tls. 2.20¾ 2.21¼ per piece. DRILLS—*Stag Head* chop (with all faults), 4,560 pieces, at Tls. 1.75 *a* 1.79¼ for 15-lbs., Tls. 1.75 *a* 1.76¾ for 14-lbs. JEANS—*Dewhurst's* XX (with all faults), 600 pieces, at 1.57½ *a* 1.59¾ per piece. TURKEY RED CAMBRICS—*Fisherman* chop (sound), 670 pieces, at Tls. 1.72 for 2¾-lbs., Tls. 1.60¼ for 2½-lbs., Tls. 1.53¼ for 2¼-lbs., Tls. 1.42¼ for 2-lbs.; *Green Joss* chop, 250 pieces, at Tls. 1.75½ per piece, and 2-lbs. *a* 2¼-lbs. common—*Fents*—430 pieces, at Tls. 1.01 *a* 1.30 per piece. PLAIN LUSTRES—assorted—*Cock* chop, 1,300 pieces, at Tls. 2.42 per piece. VELVETS—*Lie Woman* (with all faults), 312 pieces, at Tl. 0.15.9¼ a 0.15.9¾ per yard.

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.				DUTY.*
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—		*T.m.c.*	*T.m.c.*	*Tls. m. c.*
6-lbs. 39 in. 38½ yds.......	⅌ pc.	0.9.5	to 1.0.7½	
7lbs.	,,	0.9.8	,, 1.2.1½	
Dewhurst's Eagle	,,	1.3.5	,, ...	
8¼ @ 8½ lbs.	,,	1.0.7	,, 1.8.8	
D. Eagle X.X.	,,	1.9.0	,, ...	
9 *a* 9¼-lbs.	,,	1.8.0	,, 2.1.5	
9¾ *a* 10-lbs.	,,	1.9.4	,, 2.2.5	
Dewhurst's, Best	,,	2.3.5	,, 2.6.0	0.0.8 per pce.
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—				
40 yds. 36 in. 56 R. nom:	⅌ pc.	1.3.5	,, 1.4.5	
60 reed .... ,,	,,	1.3.5	,, 1.5.0	
64 ,, ... ,,	,,	1.5.5	,, 1.7.5	
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed ,,	,,	1.8.5	,, 2.1.0	
66 @ 80 reed......... ,,	,,	1.9.5	,, 2.3.0	
Best..................... ,,	,,	2.2.5	,, 2.8.0	
DRILLS, Am. 40yd 30in 15lb. nom.		2.7.5	,, 2.9.5	
English, ,, 14 *a* 15-lbs....		1.7.2	,, 2.1.0	0.1.0 ,,
Do. Fine to Finest ,, ...		2.4.0	,, 2.6.0	
Dutch, 13 *a* 14½-lbs.		2.1.0	,, 2.2.2	
JEANS, Dh., Best, 30yd. 30in. 8½lbs		2.0.0	,, 2.1.0	0.0.7½ ,,
English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8¼lbs...		1.3.0	,, 1.9.5	
American ,, ,, nom. ...		1.7.0	,, 2.3.0	
SHEETINGS—				
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs. nom.		2.9.0	,, 3.1.0	0.0.8 ,,
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs. ...		2.3.0	,, 2.4.5	
T-CLOTHS—				
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...	p. pc.	0.7.6	,, 0.9.2	
7-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...	,,	0.9.5	,, 1.0.5	0.0.4 ,,
6-lbs. Mex.	,,	......	,, ...	
7-lbs. ,, ...	,,	1.0.7	,, 1.5.5	
8 to 8¼-lbs.	,,	1.4.0	,, 1.7.0	0.0.8 ,,
Better kinds and XX		1.7.0	,, 1.9.5	
HANDKERCHIEFS—				
Blue 28 *a* 31 in....	⅌ dz.	0.4.8	,, 0.6.0	
Brown...	,,	0.4.0	,, 0.4.2	0.0.2½ per doz.
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, White	⅌ pc.	1.8.0	,, 1.9.5	0.1.0 per pce.
Dyed.	,,	2.2.0	,, 2.3.0	0.1.5 ,,
BROCADES—White, 40yds.	,,	1.9.0	,, 2.0.0	0.1.0 ,,
Dyed...........	,,	2.6.0	,, 2.8.5	0.1.0 ,,
DAMASKS, Dyed, 40 yds ...	,,	3.6.0	,, 4.5.0	0.2.0 ,,
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS	,,	1.9.0	,, 2.3.0	0.1.5 ,,
CHINTZ—Assorted	,,	1.2.0	,, 1.4.0	
Blue ....nom.	,,	1.1.8	,, 1.3.0	0.0.7 ,,
Brown......... ,,	,,	1.2.0	,, 1.3.5	
Scarlet ...... ,,	,,	1.4.0	,, 1.6.5	
PRINTED TWILLS—24/25	yds.	1.4.0	,, 2.2.0	
50/52	,,	3.6.0	,, 4.2.0	0.0.7 per 30 yds.
,, ,, Best...	,,	4.2.0	,, 4.7.5	
T. REDS, 24yd. 2 *a* 3lb. 32in. nom.	,,	0.8.0	,, 1.9.0	
Best.........	⅌ pc.	......	,, ...	0.1.5 per pce.
VELVETS—Black, 22 in...	⅌ yd.	0.1.5	,, 0.1.7	0.1.8 ,,
VELVETEENS—Black, 18 in.	,,	0.1.1	,, 0.1.3	0.1.5 ,,
26 in.	,,	......	,, ...	
BLUE DENIMS	,,	0.0.3	,, 0.0.5	0.0.3½ per 30 yds.
DIMITIES, 12 yds. 37 in....	⅌ pc.	1.1.5	,, 1.2.0	0.0.6½ per pce.
41 in. ...	,,	1.4.0	,, 1.5.0	
MUSLINS, 12 yds. 42 in. nom.	,,	0.6.5	,, 0.7.0	0.0.3½ ,,
YARN—COTTON—Nos. 28 *a* 32		65.0.0	,,80.0.0	0.7.0 per pcl.
CAMLETS, English, S S nom.	,,	12.0.0	,,13.0.0	
G G ,,	,,	nom.	,, ...	
SSG ,,	,,	12.3.5	,, ...	0.0.5
Dutch...... Tls.	,,	19.0.0	,,21.0.0	
MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS	⅌ yd.	0.7.0	,, 1.4.0	
SPANISH STRIPES	,,	0.4.8	,, 0.5.2	0.1.2
,, ,, T.T.-B ...	,,	0.5.5½	,, ...	
,, ,, H.H.	,,	0.5.6¼	,, 0.56½	
LONG ELLS—				*Per Chang of 141 inches.*
Scarlet, 24yrd. H H nom.	⅌ pc.	6.7.0	,, ...	
,, C P H	,,	6.6.5	,, ...	
,, U U	,,	6.5.5	,, ...	
,, V	,,	6.4.0	,, ...	
Assorted, H H Noml. ...	,,	6.5.0	,, 7.0.0	0.0.4½
,, C P H	,,	6.5.0	,, 6.9.0	
,, G G	,,	......	,, ...	
,, U U	,,	......	,, ...	
,, V	,,	6.3.5	,, 6.4.0	

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.				DUTY.*
		T.m.c.	*T.m.c.*	*Tls. m. c.*
LASTINGS, 30 yds	⅌ pc.	9.0.0	to 11.6.0	0.0.5 *Per Chang of 141 inches.*
CRAPE LASTINGS, 30yds. nm. ,,	,,	3.7.0	,, 8.0.0	
CRAPE LUSTRES .... ,,	,,	3.0.0	,, 3.5.0	
PLAIN—Do. Black...... ,,	,,	3.0.0	,, 3.9.0	
ORLEANS—Fig., 30 yds. ,,	,,	2.6.0	,, 3.6.0	0.2.0 per pce.
Special Colors & Patterns	,,	3.5.0	,, 3.7.5	
Metals and Sundries.				
QUICKSILVER	pr pcl.	49.0.0	,,50.0.0	2.0.0 per pcl.
TIN PLATES—14 × 10...	pr box.	4.3.0	,, 4.3.5	0.4.0 ,,
Small ,, ...	,,	4.2.5	,, ...	
IRON WIRE—No. 11	pr pcl.	4.5.0	,, ...	
12/16...	,,	5.0.0	,, ...	0.2.5 ,,
17/23...	,,	5.7.5	,, ...	
STRAITS TIN, Fong Hing.	,,	17.7.0	,, ...	
Fok Chok.	,,	16.4.0	,, ...	1.2.5 ,,
Common chops.	,,	13.0.0	,,16.0.0	
STEEL	pr tub.	3.6.0	,, ...	0.2.5 ,,
Bamboo	pr pcl.	3.7.0	,, ...	
JAPAN COPPER, Finger...	,,	......	,, ...	
Slab, best.	,,	18.5.0	,, ...	0.6.0 ,,
Ore	,,	17.3.0	,, ...	
HOOP IRON	,,	2.6.5	,, 2.7.0	0.1.2½ ,,
PIG IRON.....................	pr ton.	18.0.0	,,20.0.0	0.6.7½ ,,
NAILROD IRON—				
Dawes' Best	pr pcl.	2.1.5	,, 2.2.5	
H. Rogers, Sons & Co.	,,	2.1.5	,, ...	
Belgian	,,	1.8.0	,, 1.9.0	
M. M. Crown.........	,,	2.1.0	,, ...	0.1.2½ ,,
Bar—Dawes	,,	2.4.0	,, ...	
Round	,,	2.3.0	,, 2.4.0	
LEAD—L B.................	,,	5.7.5	,, 5.8.0	
Common Brands ...	,,	5.7.0	,, ...	0.2.5 ,,
COTTON, Common, nom..	,,	10.2.0	,,10.8.0	
Medium	,,	11.0.0	,,11.5.0	0.3.5 ,,
Best	,,	12.0.0	,,12.4.0	
SUGAR—				
White, Swatow, No. 1	,,	5.8.0	,, 6.0.0	0.2.0 ,,
,, 2	,,	5.0.0	,, 5.6.0	......
,, 3	,,	4.4.0	,, 5.0.0	0.1.2 ,,
Canton, ... ,, 1	,,	4.8.0	,, 5.4.0	0.2.0 ,,
,, 2	,,	4.2.0	,, 4.6.0	
,, 3	,,	3.5.0	,, 4.0.0	0.1.2 ,,
Brown, Swatow, Best	,,	2.5.0	,, 3.0.0	0.2.0 ,,
Common	,,	2.0.0	,, 2.5.0	
,, Canton	,,	2.5.0	,, 3.0.0	0.1.2 ,,
,, ,, Common	,,	1.6.0	,, 2.0.0	
PEPPER—Black	,,	7.0.0	,, ...	0.3.6 ,,
White	,,	12.0.0	,,12.5.0	0.5.0 ,,
RATTANS—Common	,,	2.8.0	,, 3.2.0	
Good to fine...	,,	3.2.0	,, 3.5.0	0.1.5 ,,
Best............	,,	3.6.0	,, 4.0.0	
SAPAN WOOD—				
3 pieces to the picul.	,,	2.8.0	,, 3.0.0	0.1.0 ,,
5 ,, ,, ,, & inf.	,,	1.8.0	,, 2.4.0	
SANDALWOOD, South Sea	,,	3.4.0	,, 3.5.0	
Timor ...	,,	9.0.0	,,10.0.0	0.4.0 ,,
Malabar..	,,	16.5.0	,,18.0.0	
MANGROVE BARK	,,	0.7.0	,, 1.3.0	0.0.3 ,,
FLINT STONES..............	,,	0.4.5	,, ...	
†COALS, Cdiff (to arrive)	,,	7.8.0	,, ...	
American	,,	9.0.0	,, ...	
Sydney (Bulli) ...	,,	7.0.0	,, ...	
Newcastle, N.S.W. (Nominal.)	,,	6.7.5	,, ...	
Takasima (large).	,,	6.0.0	,, ...	0.0.5 per ton.
(dust).	,,	4.5.0	,, ...	
Japan	,,	4.3.0	,, 6.2.5	
Formosa............	,,	4.5.0	,, ...	
WINDOW GLASS—				
Large	pr box.	2.9.0	,, ...	0.1.5 per box.
Small	,,	2.4.5	,, 2.7.0	sq. fee 001

* Haikwan Sycee Tls. 100=Shanghai Currency Tls. 111.40. † Cargo quotations.

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Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cottons and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 18th July, 1877, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 157 to 163, both Nos. inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.																
	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings .....Pcs.	6,310	...	16,050	870	2,550	18,820	7,663	7,550	...	550	2,000	250	13,450	8,250	...	7,150
T-Cloths ..... ,,	5,049	...	2,850	600	1,510	4,400	3,710	5,670	...	925	5,575	...	...	4,725	100	5,120
White Shirtings ..... ,,	1,002	...	...	...	250	2,300	50	5,776	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	1,480
Drills, English ..... ,,	740	...	745	290	2,650	6,745	50	1,500	...	500	...	...	350	2,700	60	390
Do., American ..... ,,	15	...	...	...	45	75	525	...	...	30	...	...	...	600	...	30
Jeans, English ..... ,,	5,080	...	...	180	...	1,250	670	1,020	...	...	...	...	...	900	...	10 0
Do., American ..... ,,	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 0
Sheetings, English ..... ,,	...	...	...	120	...	340	60	1,250	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0
Do., American ..... ,,	...	...	...	200	60	160	320	600	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	100	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 0
Brocades & Sp. S'tings, White ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, ,, ,, Dyed. ,,	50	...	100	...	150	150	150	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150
Damasks, Dyed..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	280	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chintzes ..... ,,	205	...	...	...	120	700	40	440	...	...	75	...	...	...	...	520
Turkey Red Shirtings..... ,,	...	...	100	...	...	100	1,080	300	...	...	...	...	1,050	...	...	200
Velvets ..... ,,	258	...	...	24	163	895	50	...	...	...	...	150	1,338	920	...	180
Velveteens ..... ,,	40	...	48	...	...	24	...	...	...	...	840	...	...	...	...	48
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	600	...	600	600	1,200	2,400	...	...	...	...	200	...	...	...	...	2,200
Muslins .....Pcs.	...	...	...	...	...	200	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200
Dimities ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Spanish Stripes..... ,,	30	...	42	...	366	240	24	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	216
Medium and Broad Cloths ... ,,	...	...	6	12	272	204	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	120
Camlets ..... ,,	100	...	20	20	350	920	10	...	...	170	60	...	10	...	...	150
Long Ells ..... ,,	...	...	20	100	1,080	800	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	120
Lastings ..... ,,	60	...	...	...	40	230	30	60	...	80	...	...	...	...	...	40
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	20	...	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	50	50	50	...	...	...	...	400	180	...	...
,, Figured ..... ,,	230	...	360	120	240	960	170	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	...	480
,, Crape ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	50	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lead in Pigs .....Pcls.	175	...	139	...	...	...	...	...	159	840	...	...	126	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	404	...	848	...	...	...	...	...	210	...	...	336	...	...	...	...

Goods.	Deliveries.		Imports.		Stocks at date, based on Chamber of Commerce Returns dated 1st Jan., 1877.		
	For the Week.	For Year From 1st Jany. 1877.	For the Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1877.	*At date Estimated.	†	Against 19th July, 1876.
Grey Shirtings .....Pcs.	91,463	2,674,331	213,360	3,346,563	1,509,900	257,800	422,500
T-Cloths ..... ,,	40,234	1,442,278	85,606	1,489,501	549,200	334,000	621,000
White Shirtings..... ,,	10,958	382,807	16,244	403,153	123,800	31,500	147,100
Drills, English ..... ,,	16,720	370,008	24,470	327,347	103,600	83,700	193,200
Do., American ..... ,,	1,320	137,349	.....	137,319	?	.....	
Jeans, English ..... ,,	9,200	132,378	4,600	191,936	101,900	.....	47,500
Do., American ..... ,,	140	18,100	.....	22,940	5,000	.....	
Sheetings, English..... ,,	1,870	39,703	1,359	7,743	?	13,100	23,200
Do., American and Continentals .... ,,	1,520	111,913	.....	113,400	10,200	.....	
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	200	10,666	10	9,034	900	200	21,100
Brocades and Spotted Shirtings, White ,,	.....	4,995	.....	2,048	4,300	.....	3,700
,, ,, ,, Dyed ,,	865	12,773	650	16,343	6,000	.....	8,900
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	280	6,301	800	10,437	4,900	.....	3,400
Chintzes ..... ,,	2,100	65,720	2,231	69,037	27,400	.....	44,400
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	2,830	60,573	2,320	58,058	51,900	1,400	44,300
Velvets..... ,,	3,978	26,504	2,143	33,469	8,800	.....	13,400
Velveteens ..... ,,	1,000	6,288	198	8,580	4,300	.....	10,400
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	7,800	142,094	24,526	272,874	137,500	15,700	19,500
Muslins .....Pcs.	600	19,450	4,400	28,480	11,400	3,800	16,100
Dimities ..... ,,	150	9,952	.....	5,336	5,900	.....	8,100
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	936	23,640	1,260	28,422	9,800	.....	11,100
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	626	10,831	1,188	12,104	16,400	5,700	22,100
Camlets ..... ,,	1,810	44,063	3,450	51,160	14,000	900	13,400
Long Ells..... ,,	2,060	39,232	3,220	59,660	25,300	3,600	22,400
Lastings ..... ,,	540	21,267	2,840	29,090	10,000	4,500	15,600
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	60	1,800	636	2,964	1,200	4,800	7,500
Lustres, Plain..... ,,	730	6,525	1,600	8,549	8,300	1,200	17,700
,, Figured ..... ,,	2,620	68,566	6,724	91,446	33,700	.....	28,400
,, Crape ..... ,,	150	3,670	500	4,177	2,800	.....	3,100
Lead in Pigs .....Pcls.	1,439	64,996	2,772	72,344	.....	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	1,798	47,759	5,880	141,449	.....	.....	.....

* Exclusive of Import Cargoes ex *Galley of Lorne, Galatea, City of Aberdeen, Sir Lancelot, Mikado, Atalanta, Glenfalloch, Peiho, Mirzapore,* several Coasters, and of sundry Re-exports.

† Differences—excess—between the stocks of goods sold and unsold on 31st December last, as shewn by the tables compiled by myself, and those given in the list issued by the "Chamber of Commerce" on 17th January last. See "Shanghai Trade Report," No. 253, p. 3. *The estimated stocks at date, as above stated, are based upon the list issued by the Chamber of Commerce; but that, in several of the more important items, is believed to be incorrect, inasmuch as certain Chinese, who were heavy holders, were not called upon for, and did not render any Returns at the close of last year. Thus the basis being faulty, the superstructure is imperfect, and these differences must be added to it by the concerned, if they would know the actual position of stocks, at date, or the closest approximation thereto that can be made with the resources at the command of the public.*

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The following is published by the SHANGHAI GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE *as the* RETURNS OF STOCKS OF IMPORTS *in Foreign Godowns and at Public Wharves, on 30th June, 1877, as returned by Foreign Firms, including Goods in progress of Shipment or Landing.*

Articles.		Stock on 30th June, 1877.	Articles.		Stock on 30th June, 1877
Grey Shirtings	pieces	1,430,040	Damasks	pieces	2,955
White Shirtings	,,	121,965	Chintzes	,,	29,960
American Drills	,,	1,290	Turkey Reds	,,	52,107
,, Jeans	,,	10,680	Velvets	,,	11,836
,, Sheetings	,,	5,120	Velveteens	,,	6,044
,, Shirtings	,,	6,550	Muslins	,,	6,900
English Drills	,,	139,920	Dimities	,,	6,500
,, Jeans	,,	78,590	Spanish Stripes	,,	8,812
,, Sheetings	,,	750	Medium Broad and Habit Cloths	,,	18,013
Dutch Drills	,,	13,220	Camlets, English	,,	7,990
,, Jeans	,,	13,200	,, Continental	,,	100
T-Cloths	,,	568,260	Long Ells	,,	20,200
Handkerchiefs	dozen	50,112	Lastings	,,	7,430
Gentian Shirtings	pieces	1,746	Crape Lasting	,,	1,136
Spotted Shirtings, White	,,	2,432	,, Lustres	,,	2,000
,, Dyed	,,	Nil.	Orleans, Figured	,,	24,550
Brocades, White	,,	200	,, Plain	,,	9,850
,, Dyed	,,	5,400			

RETURNS OF METALS.

Lead	piculs	13,620	Steel	piculs	5,050
Nail-Rod Iron	,,	84,248	,, Bars	,,	210
Bar Iron	,,	15,631	Tin Plates	boxes	2,628
Sheet Iron	tons	147	Quicksilver	piculs	117
Pig Iron	,,	197			

Exclusive of the Stock held by one Firm, that did not return.

METALS.—*Nail-Rod Iron*—A trifling enquiry on the basis of Tls. 2.20 per picul for Dawes's brand, sound. 4,800 bundles of Dawes's rust damaged, sold at Tls. 2.08 per picul. Assortments of Belgian are worth only Tls. 1.85 *a* 1.90 per picul, and not readily saleable. *Lead*—An insignificant retail trade at prices rather under last week's quotations. *Tin Plates*—There have been sales of I.C. at Tls. 4.35, and the market is dull. *Tin* has been in speculative request, but true quotations are difficult to arrive at. Those given to-day are purely nominal.

FREIGHTS.—*Sir Lancelot*, British barque, 886 tons, Nagasaki and back, 17 lay days, $2.25 per ton coal; *Hilda*, British barque, 306 tons, Hakodadi and back, two voyages, 20 lay days, $0.29 per picul; *Lizzie*, British schooner, 224 tons, Taiwan and back, 20 lay days, $1,100, in full

COTTON.—We have no change to chronicle. There is but little doing in the article, and when a parcel is wanted the hongs impose their own terms. The recent rains have done damage to the growing crop.

EXCHANGE.—Sterling rates opened at an advance of ¼d. on the quotations given in our last, and a fair amount of Bank paper was taken at 5s. 5½d., while Private Bills were sold at 5s. 5¾d. *a* 5s. 6¼d. At the close the market is weaker, and we quote Banks 5s. 5¼d. *a* 5s. 5d., and Private 5s. 5¾d. On Indian, transactions have taken place at Rs. 310½ *a* 309 for demand drafts, and Rs. 309½ *a* 308½ for telegraphic Transfers. Rates are now weak at the lower quotations. On Hongkong, business is reported at 25½ per cent., and the market is steady at that rate.

NOON.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—Bank Bills, at sight ....5s. 4½d. ₩ Tl.
,, ,, at 6 m/s. ....5s. 5d. *a* 5s. 5¼d. ,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight ....5s. 5⅝d. ,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. ....5s. 5¾d. ,,
ON PARIS.—Banks at 6 months' sight ......Fcs. 6.80 ,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight ....Fcs. 6.88¾ ,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. ....Frs. 6.90 *a* 6.92½ ,,
ON CALCUTTA.—Bank Bills, demand, ...Rs. 308 *a* 309 ₩ 100 Tls.
ON BOMBAY.— ,, ,, ,, ...Rs. 308 *a* 309 ₩ 100 ,,
ON HONGKONG.—Bank Bills, demand, 25½ per cent. disc.
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 26 per cent. disc.
INTEREST per annum on first-class securities 8 %.—Nom

PRICES OF BULLION.

MEXICAN DOLLARS.—75.5 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
CAROLUS DOLLARS.—86.7 ,, ,, ,, ,,
PEKIN GOLD BARS.—98 Touch, 181.0 Taels, Shanghai Currency per Bar of Tls. 9.7.2 Chau-ping weight.
HAIKWAN SYCEE.—111.3.5 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls. Haikwan weight.
CANTON SYCEE.—109.5.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels Canton weight (nominal).
BAR SILVER.—998 Touch or 17½ Betterness, Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight, 111.175.
COPPER CASH.—1,500 per Tael.

OPIUM.—

	MALWA,				BENGAL,	
Receipts of Opium since last report		7,98½	Chests.		728	Chests.
Stock on 7th instant	,,	2,921½	,,	,,	1,327	,,
Total...	,,	3,720	,,	Total... ,,	2,055	,,
Deliveries since 7th instant	,,	1,031	,,	,,	407	,,
Present Stock	,,	2,689	,,	,,	1,648	,,
Against Stock same time last year	,,	840	,,	,,	1,119	,,
Increase	,,	1,849	,,	,, Increase	529	,,

EXPORTS.

SILK.—The business for the French mail of the 14th inst. was an extremely small one, and the market this week has still continued inactive, buyers generally being unwilling to meet holders' views; late arrivals of silk have compared very unfavorably with last year's produce, being of very common quality and almost unuseable from the foulness apparent in most of the samples put forward. Silkmen, however, are wonderfully firm, and with the help of a few native speculators have established a price of Tls. 437½ for Blue Elephant = @ 5/6—20s. 6d. per lb. Good market Tsatlees are scarce, there are no Hangchows or Hainings on the market, and coarse silks generally have only come to hand in very moderate supply, thus proving the correctness of the opinion expressed in my Circular of 5th April last. New Season's re-reels have been dealt in to the extent of about 50 bales at the reported price of Tls. 460 *a* 500 for medium to fair cargo, and from the rates obtained we shall probably see a good stock of these clases placed on offer very shortly. Arrivals of new silk are within 8,000 bales and are *included* with the old in the figures of stock given below. The total settlements given at foot include purchases and shipments for the Coast on native account. The steamer is expected to take about 500 bales, which on her departure will make export for the season to date only 1,360 bales, against 16,000 last year, 19,000 bales in 1875 and 18,300 bales in 1874.

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COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

July 21, 1877.

Arrivals.—(Not reported above)—None other than coasters.

Departures.—(Not reported above)—None other than coasters.

The English mail steamer *Peking* takes about 500 bales of Silk, and 1,000 tons of Tea.

The weather during the week has been variable—high winds, calms, and sunshine alternating with clouds and rain, prevailing up to Wednesday; since which it has become more settled, and is now fine.—The thermometer has ranged from 71.5 to 88.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 5¼d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 5⅝d. *a* 5s. 5d¾. Private and Documentary, 5s. 5¾d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 6.85; Private, Frs. 6.92½. On India—Bombay Bank, Rs. 307½ *a* 308½ Calcutta Bank, Rs. 307½ *a* 308½. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 25½ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 26. Gold Bars, Tls. 181.00. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls.111.20. Mexican dollars, Shanghai Tls. 75.25 per 100. Carolus, Sh. Tls. 86.60 per 100. Copper Cash, 1,470 per tael.

Shares—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report to-day as follows:—

H. & S. Bank.—A fair amount of business has been done in this stock, at higher rates, namely:—37 and 38 per cent. premium for cash and 40 per cent. premium for 30th September, with exchange 75. Cash shares are still enquired for at the higher rate.

S. S. N. Co.—There have been several transactions at ₮ 30.

China Coast S. N. Co.—Shares are enquired for at quotations.

Compagnie du Gaz.—A sale at ₮ 73 is reported.

North-China Insurance Co—There are buyers at quotations.

Yangtsze Insurance Association.—A transaction is reported at ₮ 705 ex dividend.

Chinese Insurance Co.—There are buyers at $230 ex dividend.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co.—The have been sales at $580 to 585 for cash, and $585 for 15th August.

S. & H. Wharf Co.—A lot has been placed at ₮ 92.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	Position per Last Report.			Last Dividend, &c.		Cash Quotations.
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Share-holders.	When pd. or due.	Closing.
Bank.									
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	40,000	$125	$125	$500,000.00	$11,047.13	30 Dec. 76	* £1	15 Feb. 77	38 % prem., ex. 75 (=Tls. 129.37½.)
Steamer Companies.									
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co. (in Liquidation)	22,500	₮100	₮30	₮615,902.35	.....	30 Dec. 76	Return of T.70 on capital.	26 Mar. 77	30
China Coast Steam Navigation Co.	5,000	₮100	₮100	₮62,522.10	₮41,153.60	30 Dec. 76	* 2½ %	7 Jan. 76	67½
Docks.									
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	₮500	₮500	₮7,183.54	.....	30 Dec. 76	* 2 %	7 July 77	200
Pootung Dock Co.	950	₮100	₮100	.....	.....	.....	* 5 %	1 July 77	85
Gas.									
Shanghai Gas Co.	1,500	₮100	₮100	₮6,523.81	₮8,917.74	31 Dec. 76	* 5 %	10 July 77	142½
Compagnie du Gaz	1,000	₮50	₮50	₮2,171.31	₮2,333.25	30 Dec. 76	† 11 %	27 Feb. 77	73
Insurance (Marine.)									
China Traders' Insurance Co., Limited	200	$5,000	$1,500	.....	$22,861.80	30 Apl. 76	$110 pr share	31 July 76	2,725
North-China Insurance Co., 1875/77	1,000	₮2,000	₮600	₮202,459.66	₮456,361.31	30 Dec. 76	₮100 pr share	13 Apr. 77	860
Union In. Society of Canton	500	$2,500	$500	$106,500.00	.....	31 Dec. 75	.....	.....	775
Yangtsze Insurance Association	1,200	₮500	₮500	₮240,000.00	.....	30 Sep. 76	* 7½ %	12 July 77	705
Chinese Insurance Co., Limited	1,500	$1,000	$200	$62,507.60	$60,969.24	30 Dec. 76	* 6 %	1 Jan. 77	230
Insurance (Fire.)									
Hongkong Fire In. Co., Limited	2,000	$1,000	$200	$564,202.00	$244,445.07	30 Dec. 76	†$47.50 p.sh.	20 Feb. 77	580/5
China Fire In. Co., Limited	4,000	$500	$100	$339,787.30	$96,304.86	30 Dec. 76	† 12 %	30 Dec. 76	150
Miscellaneous.									
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co.	2,150	₮100	₮100	.....	₮1,878.61	30 Dec. 76	* 3½ %	1 Mar. 77	92
Shanghai Tug Boat Association	900	₮100	₮100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nominal.

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Nominal Value of Bonds or Debentrs.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1872	₮ 38,700.00	₮ 100.00	8 %	30th April & 31st Oct.	104 Nominal.
Do. 1873	₮ 21,000.00	₮ 100.00	,,	30th June & 31st Dec.	105 ,,
Do. 1875	₮ 42,800.00	₮ 100.00	,,	30th June & 31st Dec.	105 ,,
Lyceum Theatre Ordinary Debentures..	₮ 17,000.00	₮ 25.00	,,	30th June.	18 ,,
Do. Preference do.	₮ 5,362.50	₮ 37.50	5 %	31st Dec.	20 ,,
Chinese Imperial Government Loan ...	£ 627,615	£ 100	8 %	30th June & 31st Dec.	£106

* For half-year. † For year.

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